

SB 5515

Commission on Judicial Fitness and Disability

Senate Bill 5515 is the budget bill for the Commission on Judicial Fitness and Disability. The Commission's mission is to investigate and act upon complaints of judicial misconduct or disability based on the Oregon Code of Judicial Conduct. The Commission's jurisdiction extends to Oregon's state judges, including circuit and appellate court judges, to pro-tem judges and judicial referees; and to justices of the peace.

The Commission's budget is fully supported by General Fund. The Public Safety Subcommittee approved a budget of \$219,814 General Fund and one half-time position (0.50 FTE). This budget will allow the agency to continue its current level of services.

The total General Fund support provided in Senate Bill 5515 as amended includes \$17,508 specifically designated for extraordinary expenses arising from the investigation and prosecution of violation cases. The agency may request additional support for extraordinary expenses during either the 2016 or 2017 Sessions, or from the Emergency Board, if the actual costs incurred exceed this amount.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends Senate Bill 5515 be amended by the -1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.