



To: Presiding Officers, Oregon Legislative Assembly
Re: Support for HB 4145
Date: February 1, 2016

Dear Senate President Courtney & House Speaker Kotek:

We write in strong support of HB 4145.

HB 4145 is a thoughtful, structured plan to increase judicial pay so that it comes close to the median salary for judges serving in comparable positions in comparable states, as recommended in 2008 by the Public Officials Compensation Commission. It is extraordinarily important for Oregonians in all walks-of-life to have a highly-qualified and experienced judiciary. Appropriate salaries are necessary to attract the best and brightest lawyers to judicial service and also to retain the many exceptional judges we now have.

Oregon's trial court judges are among the lowest paid judges in all U.S. states, consistently ranking between 44th and 50th.¹ The COLA that was added for judicial salaries in 2015, while important to not lose ground to inflation, will not address inequities that have developed over time. More than 100 lawyers in the Department of Justice can make more than a circuit court judge, and the Deputy Attorney General makes \$35,000 per year more than the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court. It is increasingly difficult to recruit seasoned and accomplished lawyers with civil and family law backgrounds. Oregonians deserve - and have a right to expect -- an experienced, high-caliber Bench.

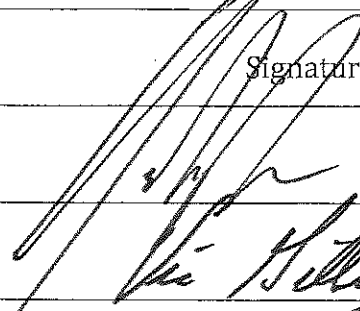

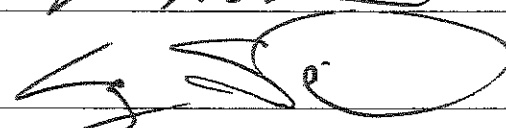


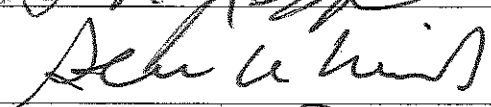

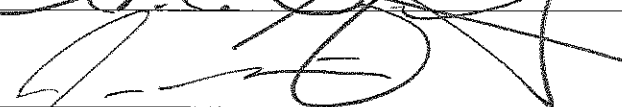
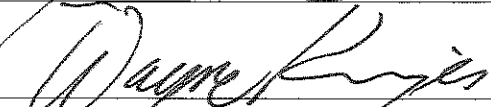



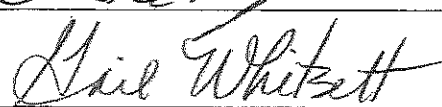
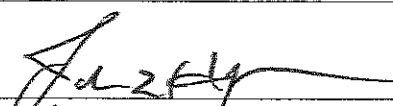

Increasing judicial salaries is good common sense administration, adequately compensating judges who serve the public in every county of the state. Doing so over a period of years is a fiscally prudent and thoughtful way to ultimately achieve adequate judicial compensation.

Please consider the attached "Request for Judicial Salary Increase" for more information about why HB 4145 deserves your support.

Please join us in supporting HB 4145.

Signatures are on attached signature pages

¹ National Center for State Courts Judicial Salary Tracker Data - <http://www.ncsc.org/salarytracker>

Signature	Printed Name
	Rep. John Davis
	Vic Gilliam
	Greg Smith
	Cam Wilson
	SHERRIE L. SPRENGER
	Gen Whisnake
	Sam Fegivol
	Jim Weidner
	WYNNE KRIEGER
	Bill Post
	Jodi Mack
	Cedric Hapkin
	GAIL WHITSETT
	JOHN HUFFMAN
	Greg Barreto

Signature	Printed Name
F. Proznowski	Floyd Proznowski
Diane Rosenbaum	Diane Rosenbaum
Elizabeth Steiner Hayward	Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
Michael E. Dombrow	Michael E. Dombrow
Ginny Burdick	Ginny Burdick
MARK HASS	MARK HASS
Chip Shields	Chip Shields
Arnie Roblan	Arnie Roblan
Laurie Monnes Anderson	LAURIE MONNES ANDERSON
Lee Beyer	Lee Beyer
Rod Monroe	Rod Monroe
Chuck Riley	CHUCK RILEY
Betsy Johnson	BETSY JOHNSON
SARA GELSTAD	SARA GELSTAD
Alan Bates	Alan Bates

Signature	Printed Name
Brian Boquist	Brian Boquist
Alan Olsen	ALAN R. OLSEN
Jeff Kruse	Jeff Kruse
Ted Ferrioli	TED FERRIOLI
Fred Girard	FRED GIRARD
Chuck Thomesen	Chuck Thomesen
Bill Hansell	Bill HANSELL

Signature	Printed Name
DVA	DAN Rayfield
Shirley	Sherrin Fagan
Ann Lininger	Ann Lininger
Ken Helm	KEN HELM
Ken Helm	Brent Barton
Caddy McKeown	CADDY MCKEOWN
Jennifer Williams	Jennifer Williams
Jeff Barker	JEFF BARKER
Jessica Vega Pederson	Jessica Vega Pederson