

**Legislative
Fiscal Office**

Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, H-178
Salem, OR 97301
503-986-1828

Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Officer
Paul Siebert, Deputy Fiscal Officer



**Joint Committee on
Ways and Means**

Sen. Richard Devlin, Senate Co-Chair
Rep. Nancy Nathanson, House Co-Chair

Sen. Betsy Johnson, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Sen. Jackie Winters, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Rep. Dan Rayfield, House Co-Vice Chair
Rep. Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

To: Public Safety Subcommittee

From: Steven Bender, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: June 21, 2017

Subject: HB 2605 – Relating to the establishment of circuit court judge positions
Work Session Recommendations

HB 2605 establishes new circuit court judge positions. HB 2605 was reported out of the House Committee on Judiciary on February 15, and referred to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference.

The new judgeships established by the bill become operative in January 2019, following the 2018 General Election. The bill includes a blank General Fund appropriation to the Oregon Judicial Department for costs associated with new judges, support staff, and associated equipment and supplies costs.

Recommended Changes

The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) recommends adoption of the -1 amendments. These amendments modify the bill to establish one additional circuit court judge for Washington County and one additional circuit court judge for Josephine County. The Chief Justice identified these as the two judicial districts in the state with the highest need for additional judges based on workloads. The amendments also appropriate \$617,468 General Fund to the Judicial Department, for the 2017-19 biennium costs associated with establishing the new judgeships.

The new judges will assume the duties of office on January 7, 2019. Support staff positions are established on November 1, 2018.

MOTION: I move adoption of the -1 amendment to HB 2605. (VOTE)

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that HB 2605, as amended by the -1 amendment, be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

MOTION: I move HB 2605, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. (VOTE)

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____