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KRISTIN M. WELSH CHELSEY J. THORNE[^]

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RODERIC S. MACMILLAN, RET. (1976-2012)

Rep. Jeff Barker Rep.JeffBarker@state.or.us

> RE: Washington County Judicial Position

Dear Representative Barker:

I am a practicing attorney and a member of the Oregon State Bar. I have and continue to litigate many civil cases in Washington County. As a member of the Washington County Joint Civil Bench Bar Committee I have been in contact with the Washington County Circuit Court about the pending request for additional judges for Washington County (HB 2605).

An additional judge in Washington County would assist greatly with the ability of parties and attorneys to have even greater access to the already very busy Washington County courts.

With respect to complex litigation in particular, Washington County is also home to many of the large, multi-family construction projects (condominiums and townhomes) which are the subject of a significant number of construction defect lawsuits. These lawsuits often involve many parties and lengthy, time consuming trials (6+ weeks). Additional judicial resources, specifically additional judges, would be a benefit to all of those involved in these large and unwieldy cases.

> Very truly yours, /s/ Megan L. Ferris Megan L. Ferris