

## HB 2636 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Judiciary

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**Action Date:** 02/14/17

**Action:** Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

**Vote:** 11-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 11 - Barker, Gorsek, Greenlick, Lininger, Olson, Post, Sanchez, Sprenger, Stark, Vial, Williamson

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Whitney Perez, Counsel

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Increases current annual salary for Oregon judges. Establishes salary rate increases through January 1, 2020.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Intention is to place Oregon judge's salary within the median range for the 13 western states
- HB 2636 would enable the bench to attract talented candidates by staying competitive

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

#### BACKGROUND:

According to the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), as of July 1, 2016, Oregon ranked 47th out of 50 states and the District of Columbia for high court judges' pay, 36th for intermediate appellate court judges' pay out of the 40 states with these courts, and 48th out of the 50 states and D.C. for general jurisdiction court judges' pay. Judges' pay for general jurisdiction courts in Oregon is ranked 50th nationally when adjusted for the cost-of-living index.

Senate Bill 11 increases annual salaries for judges as follows:

##### Supreme Court Chief Justice

- Increases salary from \$138,556 to \$150,571.92 for 2017
- Increases salary by \$6,476 on January 1 of 2018, 2019 and 2020

##### Supreme Court Judge

- Increases salary from \$135,688 to \$147,559.92 for 2017
- Increases salary by \$6,863 on January 1 of 2018, 2019 and 2020

##### Court of Appeals Chief Judge

- Increases salary from \$135,688 to \$147,559.92 for 2017
- Increases salary by \$6,863 on January 1 of 2018, 2019 and 2020

##### Court of Appeals Judge

- Increases salary from \$132,820 to \$144,535.92 for 2017
- Increases salary by \$6,821 on January 1 of 2018, 2019 and 2020

##### Circuit Court Judge

- Increases salary from \$124,468 to \$135,775.92 for 2017

This Summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.

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- Increases salary by \$5,691 on January 1 of 2018, 2019 and 2020

Tax Court Judge

- Increases salary from \$128,164 to \$139,651.92 for 2017
- Increases salary by \$6,424 on January 1 of 2018, 2019 and 2020