

SB 11 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 02/14/17

Action: Do pass and refer to Ways and Means by prior reference.

Vote: 4-1-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Dembrow, Manning Jr, Prozanski, Thatcher

Nays: 1 - Linthicum

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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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:

- Discussion of need for greater pay of Oregon judges
- Overview of past legislation addressing Oregon judge salaries

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