

HB 2606 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 02/15/17

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: Revenue impact issued

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows allocation of moneys from Criminal Fine Account to State Court Technology Fund. Declares emergency; effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Portion of Criminal Fine Account allocated to Department of Public Safety Standards and Training
- Effect of reallocating money on current programs
- Amount of Criminal Fine Account moneys deposited in General Fund
- Budgetary process for allocation of Criminal Fine Account moneys
- Interplay of civil filing fee increases and criminal fines
- Ongoing costs of Oregon eCourt Program

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Legislative Assembly enacted House Bill 2562 in the 2013 legislative session, making several changes to the filing fee structure and record keeping processes in Oregon courts. It also created the State Court Technology Fund to provide a source of funding for the Oregon eCourt Program. HB 2562 allocated 4.75 percent of civil fees collected by the courts to the Fund. Other moneys allocated to the Fund include a portion of filing fees charged to attorneys in private practice who use the eCourt program. The Criminal Fine Account holds all of the moneys collected by state courts in criminal actions. Allocations to specific public safety programs are made each biennium from the CFA, with a portion flowing to the General Fund. In 2015-2017 biennium, \$123 million was collected in the CFA, with \$76.5 million going towards programs and \$46.5 million deposited in the General Fund.

House Bill 2606 authorizes allocation of moneys from the Criminal Fine Account into the State Court Technology Fund.