



OREGON JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT  
Office of the State Court Administrator

February 27, 2018

The Honorable Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Representative Nancy Nathanson, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
900 Court Street NE  
H-178 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Re: OJD Compensation Plan Changes Report for the 2017-19 Biennium

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

**Nature of Request**

The Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) requests that you acknowledge receipt of this report on prospective OJD compensation plan changes for staff for the 2017-19 biennium. This report is made pursuant to ORS 8.105 (1) which directs OJD to submit any changes to its compensation plan to the Legislative Assembly or one of its interim budget entities.

**PERS Pick-up for OJD Staff:**

The Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court is the administrative head of the Oregon Judicial Department, the state-funded unified court system. ORS 1.008 directs the Chief Justice to establish and maintain a personnel plan for OJD employees, which includes the classification and compensation structure for OJD employees who are in exempt service. Under ORS 240.245, the salary plan for exempt service employees must be in reasonable conformity with the general salary structure of the state.

In October of 2017, Governor Brown announced that the executive branch will no longer be responsible for the "pick-up" of the employee 6% contribution to PERS and that, instead, management service and unrepresented employees in the executive branch will begin making the 6% contribution via a payroll deduction beginning February 1, 2019. As an offset to this change, all compensation plan salary rates for PERS participating members (of the affected employees) will increase by 6.95% beginning February 1, 2019.

The Honorable Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Representative Nancy Nathanson, Co-Chair  
Page 2  
February 27, 2018

The Oregon Judicial Department, to remain in reasonable conformity to the executive branch, will match the announced 6.95% salary change and PERS pick-up change for OJD staff effective February 1, 2019. The estimated additional personnel costs associated with this change are:

Biennium	General Fund Impact	Other Funds Impact
2017-19 Biennium	\$854,000	\$62,800
2019-21 Biennium	\$4.10 million	\$301,594

OJD intends to cover expenses in the 2017-19 biennium through funds received in the February 2018 salary pot distribution and, if necessary, with its general fund appropriation.

**Action Requested**

The Oregon Judicial Department requests acknowledgment of this report of the changes announced as provided in ORS 8.105 (1) and ORS 292.428.

**Legislation Affected**

None

Sincerely,



Nancy J. Cozine  
State Court Administrator  
NJC:DM:ma/18eNJC003ma

ec: Chief Justice Thomas A. Balmer  
Steve Bender, Principal Legislative Analyst, LFO  
April McDonald, Policy and Budget Analyst, CFO-BAM  
David Moon, Director of BFSD, OJD