

HB 2238 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 1/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies the salary of Oregon Judges. Sets annual salary as a percentage of annual salary of judge in US District Court. Applies to judicial salaries of Supreme Court judges, Court of Appeals judges, Tax Court judges, and circuit court judges. Declares emergency; effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the National Center for State courts (NCSC), as of July 1, 2018, Oregon ranks near the bottom of the 50 states for judicial salaries at all levels of courts. In particular, Oregon is ranked 46 of 51 jurisdiction for compensation of judges in courts of general jurisdiction. For Supreme Court justices, Oregon ranks 38th nationally.

House Bill 2238 amends the process for determining judicial salary and requires an adjustment every two years to make judicial salaries a percentage of the salary of US District Court judicial salary.