

SB 977 A -A3, -A6 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 5/15, 5/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Repeals "form of justice's undertaking" and "qualifications of sureties" for justices of the peace.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A3 Includes Crook County within list of counties that may include a portion of a city that is a county seat within a justice of the peace district.

-A6 Allows election or appointment of circuit court judges from judicial districts adjacent to judicial district for which judge is elected or appointed. Adds emergency clause.

BACKGROUND:

A Justice of the Peace is an elected county official who presides over a justice court. Justice courts may hear cases involving violations, small claims, and evictions. Justice courts are found in Baker, Clackamas, Columbia, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, and Hood River counties.

Senate Bill 977 A provides a clean-up to justice of the peace statutes by repealing statutes referencing the "form of justice's undertaking" and "qualification of sureties."