

**HB 2239 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Judiciary**

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**Action Date:** 03/19/19

**Action:** Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

**Vote:** 9-0-2-0

**Yeas:** 9 - Barker, Bynum, Gorsek, Lewis, Piluso, Power, Sprenger, Stark, Williamson

**Exc:** 2 - Greenlick, McLane

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Channa Newell, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 1/22, 3/19

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Increases the number of judges in 12 of the 27 judicial districts in Oregon. Appropriates money from the General Fund for judicial positions. Specifies that new judges may be nominated and elected for positions beginning January, 2021. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment sine die.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- New judges for dependency dockets
- Length and breadth of juvenile cases requires judicial time and attention
- Results of workload study

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Oregon courts of general jurisdiction are the circuit courts. The circuit courts are organized into 27 judicial districts with 173 judges serving in those districts.

House Bill 2239 increases the number of judges in 12 of the 27 judicial districts, bringing the total number of judges to 187.