

HB 3388 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 03/28/19

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

Vote: 11-0-0-0

Yeas: 11 - Barker, Bynum, Gorsek, Greenlick, Lewis, McLane, Piluso, Power, Sprenger, Stark, Williamson

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies the salaries of Oregon Judges. Sets annual salary as a percentage of annual salary of judge in U.S. District Court. Applies to judicial salaries of Supreme Court judges, Court of Appeals judges, Tax Court judges, and circuit court judges. Removes ability to tie legislator's annual salary to judicial salary. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for increase in judicial compensation
- Provisions of measure

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 jurisdictions for compensation of judges in courts of general jurisdiction. For Supreme Court justices, Oregon ranks 38th nationally.

House Bill 3388 amends the process for determining judicial salaries and requires an adjustment every two years to make judicial salaries a percentage of the salary of U.S. District Court judicial salaries.