

HJR 10 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 04/04/19

Action: Without recommendation as to adoption, refer to Rules 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: Gillian Fischer, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 4/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Proposes amendment to the Oregon Constitution to allow juries to impose verdicts in criminal cases only by unanimous agreement. Refers proposed amendment to the people for their approval or rejection at the next general election.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Heard for the sole purpose of referring to House Committee on Rules

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Constitution provides that in all felony criminal prosecutions the accused shall have the right to public trial by an impartial jury in the county in which the offense shall have been committed and ten members of the jury may render a verdict of guilty or not guilty, save and except a verdict of guilty of first degree murder, which shall be found only by a unanimous verdict of twelve jurors.

House Joint Resolution 10 allows verdicts by unanimous vote only.