



Oregon Judicial Department

2022 Legislative Session Legislative Proposals and Budget January Update

Oregon Judicial Department Bills

HB ___ (LC 181): *Fines and Fees and Remote Proceedings – Removing Barriers and Providing Relief.*

1. Continues authority granted to the Chief Justice during the pandemic to permit remote appearances.
2. Gives judges the same discretion to waive/reduce minimum fines on violations as they have with misdemeanors and felonies.
3. Simplifies process for adults in custody to seek a fee waiver in appeals.
4. Clarifies filing fees in protective proceedings if the filer seeks both guardianship and conservatorship, or for multiple protective orders for same person.
5. Eliminates the fee for amended affidavits on small estate probate filings.
6. Simplifies the habeas corpus filing fee waiver process.

SB ___ (LC 182): *Judicial Compensation.* Increases state judge salaries so they are paid comparably to the state attorneys that appear before them, to their peers nationally, and to enhance recruitment and retention.

HB ___ (LC 183): *Child Support Referees.* Provides clear statutory authority for the centralized child support referee position established by the Legislature in 2021.

Investments in Justice Services

Family Treatment Courts

A joint report by the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) and other state partners to expand state-funded access to Family Treatment Courts (FTCs) for parents involved in the dependency (child welfare) system due to substance use disorders. FTCs serve families and communities by providing critical supports and reducing the time children spend in foster care.

Pretrial Justice and Security Release (Money Bail)

SB 48 (2021) requires a new approach to pretrial release and Oregon courts are prepared to be part of the solution. OJD is requesting release of funds to build programs statewide that ensure release decisions are equitable, individually tailored, and fair to the defendant, victims, and the community at large. This includes advocating for release officers in courts designed to provide consistent outcomes based on judicial decision making.

Access to Justice Innovations: The Web Portal Project

Data shows that 84% Oregonians are unable to access legal help, and the percentage is particularly high in historically underserved communities throughout the state. OJD supports a one-stop web portal for people without lawyers to streamline access to critical information in high-needs areas such as housing, domestic violence prevention, health care, and employment.

Replacing Unsafe Courthouses

OJD has provided a report on the public-private partnership approach to a new Clackamas County courthouse and is requesting authority to sell bonds authorized in the 2021 session and a \$4.4 million supplemental request for the Crook County courthouse.

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