

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **Item 21: Department of Justice General Counsel Division**

---

To:           Ways and Means Full Committee  
From:        Public Safety Subcommittee  
Carrier:      Senator Gorsek

---

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means recommend including an increase of \$2,310,592 in the Other Funds expenditure limitation and authorizing the establishment of nine permanent full-time Senior Assistant Attorney General positions (4.74 FTE) for the Department of Justice, General Counsel Division, in a budget reconciliation bill during the 2022 legislative session to provide legal services to state agencies.

The General Counsel Division provides a broad range of legal services to state agencies, boards, and commissions. The Division has experienced, or is expected to experience, workload increases related to the Water Resources Department's contested case backlog; the Department of Transportation's efforts tied to the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021; the Housing and Community Services Department's work related to state and federal housing initiatives; and the Oregon Health Authority's general work related to increases in federal grant funding. The revenue to support this request would come from billings to state agencies.

The 2023-25 biennial cost totals \$4.7 million Other Funds and nine positions (9.00 FTE).

The Subcommittee recommends approval.