



**Marion County**  
OREGON

Board of Commissioners

March 10, 2021

(503) 588-5212  
(503) 588-5237-FAX

Representative Karin Power; Chair  
Representative Kim Wallan; Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary  
House Subcommittee on Civil Law

**BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS**

Kevin Cameron, Chair  
Danielle Bethell  
Colm Willis

RE: Oppose House Bill 2177

Dear Chair Power, Vice Chair Wallan and Members of the Subcommittee:

**CHIEF  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
OFFICER**

Jan Fritz




The Marion County Board of Commissioners strongly oppose HB 2177. The bill authorizes the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to collect a fee for the use of state court technology services from counties based on the number of felony and misdemeanor cases filed in the circuit court of the county.

At the 500 cases filed threshold, this bill will impact fifteen of 36 Oregon counties, including Marion County, and the cost to Marion County will be an estimated \$524,000 on an annual basis. The District Attorney's Office will be unable to absorb a cost of this magnitude. This could lead to the loss of 4.0 FTE deputy district attorneys, which in turn would mean the department would be unable to file most misdemeanors or sustain specialty programs such as the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program (LEAD) and treatment courts.

- Imposing a fee on counties to pay for technology improvements to the state court system is unfair and further erodes the already tenuous financial partnership between the state and the counties that elect state officials to uphold state laws.

The Marion County Board of Commissioners urges the committee to oppose HB 2177.

Sincerely,

		
Kevin Cameron Chair	Danielle Bethell Vice Chair	Colm Willis Commissioner

CC: Marion County Legislative Delegation