

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **Item 1: Judicial Department Compensation Plan Changes**

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To: Ways and Means Full Committee  
From: Public Safety Subcommittee  
Carrier: Representative Lewis

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The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means acknowledge receipt of a report on Judicial Department compensation plan changes.

By statute, the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court is to establish a department-wide personnel plan that is in reasonable conformity with the general salary structure of the state. The Chief Justice is proposing a one-time cost of living adjustment allowance of \$1,500, a 6.5% COLA effective December 1, 2023, and a 6.55% COLA effective January 1, 2025. The effective date of the second ongoing COLA is contingent on the Legislature providing supplemental funding beyond the existing funding appropriated for state employee compensation changes. If supplemental funding is not appropriated, then the effective date of the second COLA may be delayed to February 1, 2025.

Statutory judgeship compensation is not subject to the Chief Justice's personnel plan but directed by statute. Judges receive an increase based on any COLA adopted for management service employees in the executive branch. The 2023-25 biennial cost for all three COLAs is estimated to be \$27.8 million total funds and \$7.1 million General Fund. The 2025-27 biennial cost is estimated to be \$47.7 million total funds and \$12.9 million General Fund.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends approval.