LC 2317 2025 Regular Session 11/20/24 (JLM/ps)

DRAFT

SUMMARY

Digest: The Act lets the DA charge a fee before providing discovery. (Flesch Readability Score: 64.9).

Provides that a district attorney may require the payment of a fee reasonably calculated to reimburse costs before providing discovery to a defendant.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

- 2 Relating to discovery; amending ORS 135.805 and 135.815.
- 3 Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
- 4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 135.805 is amended to read:
- 5 135.805. (1) The provisions of ORS 135.805 to 135.873 are applicable to all
- 6 criminal prosecutions in which the charging instrument has been brought in
- 7 a court of record.
- 8 (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section, a
- 9 protective order entered under ORS 135.873, or any other provision of law
- 10 prohibiting or restricting the disclosure of specific material or information,
- as used in ORS 135.805 to 135.873, "disclose" means to provide:
- 12 (a) A copy of the material, including but not limited to any document,
- 13 photograph, report, audio recording, video recording or electronically stored
- 14 information;
- (b) The opportunity to inspect and photograph tangible physical evidence;
- 16 and

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- 17 (c) The opportunity to conduct independent testing of tangible physical
- 18 evidence, provided that the testing does not destroy the evidence.
 - (3) The meaning of "disclose" described in subsection (2)(a) of this

- section does not apply to any material that contains depictions of sexually explicit conduct involving a child, as those terms are defined in ORS 163.665.
- (4) As used in ORS 135.805 to 135.873, "district attorney" includes a district attorney, a deputy district attorney, a municipal prosecutor, the Attorney General and an assistant attorney general acting in the role of a prosecutor at the trial court level.
- 7 **SECTION 2.** ORS 135.815 is amended to read:
- 135.815. (1) Except as otherwise provided in ORS 135.855 and 135.873, the district attorney shall disclose **or otherwise make available** to a represented defendant the following material and information within the possession or control of the district attorney:
- 12 (a) The names, addresses and telephone numbers of persons whom the 13 district attorney intends to call as witnesses at any stage of the trial, to-14 gether with their relevant written or recorded statements or memoranda of 15 any oral statements of such persons.
- 16 (b) Any written or recorded statements or memoranda of any oral state-17 ments made by the defendant, or made by a codefendant if the trial is to be 18 a joint one.
- (c) Any reports or statements of experts, made in connection with the particular case, including results of physical or mental examinations and of scientific tests, experiments or comparisons which the district attorney intends to offer in evidence at the trial.
- 23 (d) Any books, papers, documents, photographs or tangible objects:
- 24 (A) Which the district attorney intends to offer in evidence at the trial; 25 or
- 26 (B) Which were obtained from or belong to the defendant.
- (e) If actually known to the district attorney, any record of prior criminal convictions of persons whom the district attorney intends to call as witnesses at the trial; and the district attorney shall make a good faith effort to determine if such convictions have occurred.
- 31 (f) All prior convictions of the defendant known to the state that would

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- 1 affect the determination of the defendant's criminal history for sentencing
- 2 under rules of the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission.
- 3 (g) Any material or information that tends to:
- 4 (A) Exculpate the defendant;
- 5 (B) Negate or mitigate the defendant's guilt or punishment; or
- 6 (C) Impeach a person the district attorney intends to call as a witness 7 at the trial.
- 8 (2)(a) The disclosure required by subsection (1)(g) of this section:
- 9 (A) Shall occur regardless of whether the material or information is re-10 corded or in writing.
- 11 (B) Shall occur without delay in accordance with ORS 135.845 and prior 12 to the entry of any guilty plea pursuant to an agreement with the state. If
- 13 the existence of the material or information is not known at that time, the
- 14 disclosure shall be made upon discovery without regard to whether the re-
- 15 presented defendant has entered or agreed to enter a guilty plea.
- 16 (b) Nothing in subsection (1)(g) of this section:
- 17 (A) Expands any obligation under a statutory provision or the Oregon or
- 18 United States Constitution to disclose, or right to disclosure of, personnel
- 19 or internal affairs files of law enforcement officers.
- 20 (B) Imposes any obligation on the district attorney to provide material
- 21 or information beyond the obligation imposed by the Oregon and United
- 22 States Constitutions.
- 23 (3) Except as otherwise provided in ORS 135.855 and 135.873, in prose-
- 24 cutions for violation of ORS 813.010 in which an instrument was used to test
- 25 a person's breath, blood or urine to determine the alcoholic content of the
- 26 person's blood the district attorney shall disclose to a represented defendant
- 27 at least the following material and information within the possession or
- 28 control of the district attorney:
- 29 (a) Any report prepared by a police officer relating to field tests, inter-
- 30 views, observations and other information relating to the charged offense;
- 31 (b) Any report relating to the test results;

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- 1 (c) A copy of the form provided to the defendant under ORS 813.100 (2)(b); 2 and
- 3 (d) Any checklist prepared by the operator of the instrument for the test.
- 4 (4)(a) If a defendant is not represented by a lawyer, the district attorney
- 5 shall disclose or otherwise make available to the defendant all of the in-
- 6 formation described in subsections (1) and (3) of this section except for the
- 7 personal identifiers of the victim and any witnesses.
- 8 (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, the district attorney
- 9 shall disclose the personal identifiers of the victim and any witnesses if the
- 10 trial court orders the disclosure. A trial court shall order the district at-
- 11 torney to disclose the personal identifiers of the victim and any witnesses
- 12 if the trial court finds that:
- 13 (A) The defendant has requested the information; and
- (B)(i) The victim or witness is a business or institution and disclosure of
- 15 the information would not represent a risk of harm to the victim or witness;
- 16 or
- 17 (ii) The need for the information cannot reasonably be met by other
- 18 means.
- 19 (5)(a) Unless authorized by the trial court to disclose the information, a
- 20 lawyer representing a defendant, or a representative of the lawyer, may not
- 21 disclose to the defendant personal identifiers of a victim or witness obtained
- 22 under subsections (1) and (3) of this section.
- 23 (b) The trial court shall order the lawyer, or representative of the lawyer,
- 24 to disclose to the defendant the personal identifiers of a victim or witness
- 25 if the court finds that:
- 26 (A) The defendant's lawyer has requested the district attorney to disclose
- 27 the information to the defendant;
- 28 (B) The district attorney has refused to disclose the information to the
- 29 defendant; and
- 30 (C) The need for the information cannot reasonably be met by other
- 31 means.

- (6) The district attorney may charge a fee reasonably calculated to reimburse costs before disclosing or otherwise providing the material or information described in this section to the defendant or the defendant's lawyer. Costs that may be taken into account when calculating the fee include but are not limited to:
- (a) Time spent by district attorney employees reviewing, redacting, compiling, formatting or otherwise preparing discovery materials.
- (b) Physical discovery materials including paper documents, reports and photographs, audio recordings, video recordings and storage media for electronically stored information including compact discs, flash drives, hard drives and similar items.
- (c) Overhead costs including wear and tear on equipment used to prepare discovery materials and building maintenance.
- 14 [(6)] (7) As used in this section:

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- 15 (a) "Personal identifiers" means:
- (A) In relation to a witness, the witness's address, telephone number, Social Security number and date of birth and the identifying number of the witness's depository account at a financial institution, as defined in ORS 706.008, or credit card account.
- (B) In relation to a victim, the victim's address, electronic mail address, telephone number, Social Security number, date of birth, any user names or other identifying information associated with the victim's social media accounts and the identifying number of the victim's depository account at a financial institution, as defined in ORS 706.008, or credit card account.
- (b) "Representative of the lawyer" has the meaning given that term in ORS 40.225.
- (c) "Represented defendant" means a defendant who is represented by a lawyer in a criminal action.
- 29 (d) "Social media" has the meaning given that term in ORS 659A.330.

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