

Requested by Representative OWENS

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
HOUSE BILL 2497**

1 Delete lines 4 through 16 of the printed bill and insert:

2 **“SECTION 1. (1) The State Court Administrator shall fund a**
3 **courthouse needs assessment in each county with a population of less**
4 **than 50,000.**

5 **“(2) In performing each assessment, the State Court Administrator**
6 **shall convene a work group of stakeholders identified in consultation**
7 **with county government. The State Court Administrator, the county**
8 **government and the work group shall collaborate to consider the needs**
9 **of state courts in the county over the next 50 years, including the vi-**
10 **ability of the current county courthouse, the number of judges and**
11 **staff that will be required, space standards, security requirements, the**
12 **impact of technological requirements and advancements and access to**
13 **justice.**

14 **“(3) An assessment for a county that handles more than 30 percent**
15 **of the caseload of a judicial district must assume that the county’s**
16 **courthouse requires at least two courtrooms capable of holding**
17 **12-person jury trials.**

18 **“(4) Each assessment must indicate whether a county government**
19 **requires space in the county’s courthouse or whether the courthouse**
20 **will serve only state court purposes.**

21 **“(5) If a county has performed a courthouse needs assessment dur-**

1 ing the five years preceding the effective date of this 2023 Act and the
2 state builds a new courthouse under subsection (6) of this section, the
3 cost of the assessment performed under subsection (1) of this section
4 shall be credited to the county against rent owed in the new court-
5 house under subsection (7) of this section.

6 “(6) If an assessment performed under subsection (1) of this section
7 or during the five years preceding the effective date of this 2023 Act
8 indicates that a courthouse in a county should be replaced, the state,
9 acting by and through the Oregon Department of Administrative Ser-
10 vices, shall purchase property and build a new courthouse that is ex-
11 pected to meet the needs of the county for at least 75 years.

12 “(7) If an assessment performed under subsection (1) of this section
13 or during the five years preceding the effective date of this 2023 Act
14 indicates that a county requires space in its courthouse for county
15 government and the state builds a new courthouse under subsection
16 (6) of this section, the state shall lease space in the new courthouse
17 to the county at a rate that equals 50 percent of the market rate for
18 comparable commercial space in the county.”.

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