

**TESTIMONY ON SB 326 A-ENGROSSED
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
MAY 4, 2023**

**PRESENTED BY: KAITI FERGUSON, SENIOR STAFF COUNSEL
OREGON JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Andersen and Wallan, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kaiti Ferguson, Senior Staff Counsel at the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD). OJD is neutral on SB 326 A-Engrossed, but I am submitting this testimony to thank Representative Morgan and Senator Prozanski for their leadership and including OJD in the discussions on this concept over the past several months.

We appreciate the thoughtful work of the other stakeholders and the Legislative Policy and Research Office analysts involved in developing this concept and for considering OJD's suggestions on how to achieve the bill's policy goals with minimal impact on court operations and processes. Those suggestions have been incorporated into the A-Engrossed bill.

With regard to the aspects of the bill that affect OJD processes and court procedures, we anticipate that we will be able to readily implement those changes.

Additionally, if work continues, OJD would welcome the opportunity to participate in those discussions and provide insight on the aspects and procedures that apply to OJD.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony. I am available to answer any questions.