

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **SB 5512 Judicial Department**

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

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SB 5512 is the budget bill for the Judicial Department, which includes the judges and administrative staff who operate circuit courts, a Tax Court, the Court of Appeals, and the Oregon Supreme Court. The Department is also responsible for the collection of court-ordered financial judgments.

The Public Safety Subcommittee approved a total funds budget of \$750.7 million, including \$694.2 million General Fund, \$55 million Other Funds, and \$1.6 million Federal Funds. The budget includes 2,064 positions and 2,022.04 FTE. The budget is a total funds decrease of 17.6% from the 2021-23 legislatively approved budget due primarily to the phase-out of \$201 million Other Fund in one-time funding for the Oregon Courthouse Capital Construction and Improvement Fund; however, the General Fund budget is increased by \$66.8 million, or 10.7%.

The budget includes new or continued investments in the pretrial release program, protective proceedings, records expungement, information technology for remote proceedings, classification and compensation plan changes for court, program, and administrative staff, funding for Other Funded grants and agreements, and the backfill of a revenue shortfall in the eCourt program, among other changes.

A special purpose appropriation of \$3 million General Fund to the Emergency Board was established in the event supplemental funding is needed for court support services such as interpreters or third-party debt collection.

In addition, there are two adjustments to the current 2021-23 biennial budget, which include a supplemental General Fund increase of \$700,000 to continue to provide court support services and a \$1.6 million General Fund disappropriation to Judicial Compensation to capture a projected funding surplus. This reduction does not impact the compensation of statutory judgeships.

The Subcommittee modified an existing performance measure and approved updated targets.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends SB 5512 be amended by the –2 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.