TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 4153 BEFORE THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY FEBRUARY 7, 2024

PRESENTED BY: REZA ALAVI, SENIOR ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL OREGON JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

Chairs Woods and Nathanson, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Reza Alavi, Senior Assistant General Counsel at the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD). I want to start by thanking the numerous chief and regular sponsors for bringing this bill forward. OJD generally supports the goals of the measure. Establishing an artificial intelligence (AI) task force that will examine and identify terms and definitions related to AI is forward looking.

While my testimony is offered for informational purposes, I would like to first express OJD's appreciation to Representative Nguyen for considering our request to include a Chief Justice appointment of a non-voting member to the Task Force.

As with all things involving technology, and particularly with AI, this field is rapidly evolving and permeating across sectors. To keep pace with these developments, having a shared understanding of how words and terms are used, and what they are intended to mean, is vital to ensuring effective communication across sectors and branches of governments. For the judicial branch, courts nationally are researching and evaluating how AI might be used to improve court processes, as well as how it might be used – or misused – in litigation settings. This work is also happening here at the local level, with OJD actively tracking and evaluating AI applications and impacts to our courts. Development of a comprehensive framework as to key terms and definitions associated with AI will benefit our courts, and OJD would welcome the opportunity to participate.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony and for consideration of our request. If you have any questions, please contact me at Reza.Alavi@ojd.state.or.us or Kaiti Ferguson, OJD Senior Staff Counsel, at Kaiti.Ferguson@ojd.state.or.us.