

Submitter: Heather Devine  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: SB1576

February 12, 2024

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of the -4 amendment to SB 1576.

The amendment provides County Courts in Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Sherman and

Wheeler County with a choice over whether to keep or transfer their probate jurisdiction to the Circuit Courts.

As estate proceedings become increasingly more complex, County Courts should have the

option to transfer their probate jurisdiction to the Circuit Courts, where Judges have the

necessary legal education and experience to handle these cases appropriately.

I understand not all County Courts will want to give up their probate jurisdiction, so the -4

amendment provides County Courts with a choice. If a County Court is happy with their current

judicial system and government structure, they can keep it.

But County Courts should have a choice. The -4 amendment ensures we do.

As a resident of Gilliam County, I urge you to support the -4 amendment to SB 1576.

Sincerely,

Heather Devine