

# SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

## **Item 1: Judicial Department Compensation Plan Changes**

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To: Ways and Means Full Committee  
From: Public Safety Subcommittee  
Carrier: Senator Brock Smith

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The Public Safety Subcommittee received a report from the Judicial Department on compensation plan changes.

By statute, the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court establishes a branch-wide personnel plan in reasonable conformity with the general salary structure of the state. The Chief Justice is proposing a 2.5% COLA effective February 1, 2026, a 4% COLA effective January 1, 2027, and an additional top step to each compensation range effective February 1, 2027. Statutory judgeships are not included in this plan, per statute they receive any COLA increase based on management service employees in the executive branch, which have yet-to-be determined.

The estimated cost is \$15 million total funds for the 2025-27 biennium and \$42.2 million total funds for the 2027-29 biennium. Two other classification and compensation plan changes are proposed, effective October 1, 2025, that will have no budgetary impact.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means acknowledge receipt of a report from the Judicial Department on compensation plan changes.