Legislative Summary Report

Civil Law



This Legislative Summary Report highlights Civil Law policy measures that received a public hearing in a policy committee during the **2025** regular legislative session. The report is organized by subtopics and includes the measure number; the measure status: enacted $[\[\]]$ or not enacted $[\[\]]$; and a brief description of the measure.

Civil Law Subtopics:

- Cannabis Regulation
- Civil Actions & Civil Procedure
- Civil Commitment

- Family Law
- Other Civil Matters
- Property Liability

Cannabis Regulation

SB 162



The measure is a cannabis omnibus that authorizes destruction of hoop houses used in unlawful production of marijuana when executing a search warrant, expands agencies' access to a map of licensed marijuana and industrial hemp operations, removes proximity prohibitions for marijuana retailers near prekindergarten or kindergarten programs, permits inspection of industrial hemp biomass, and allows multi-year marijuana licenses.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Criminal Justice.

SB 176 A



The measure would have renamed the Oregon Medical Marijuana Act to the Oregon Medical Cannabis Act, removed the Oregon Health Authority's regulatory oversight of medical marijuana cardholders' personal production of marijuana, and delegated regulation to the Oregon Liquor and Control Commission for medical marijuana producers that grow cannabis for three or more cardholders. The measure also would have defined relevant terms, made conforming amendments to cannabis laws, set some minimum and maximum potency levels for retailers, directed additional distributions from the Oregon Medical Marijuana account for administration costs, and prohibited health care discrimination based on cardholder status

- The measure would have made several changes to laws regarding marijuana and industrial hemp, such as changes to tracking systems and requirements, retailer use of motion detection cameras, licensee co-location of industrial hemp and marijuana production, and provisional laws permitting interstate commerce.
- The measure would have required the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission's rules establishing standards for the labeling of marijuana items and industrial hemp vapor items include that the minimum age is 21 years for consumption of such items.

Civil Actions & Civil Procedure

- SB 15 The measure defines "manufactured home" for the purpose of small estate affidavits, excludes manufactured homes from the fair market value limit for personal property, and includes them in a fair market value limit for real property and manufactures homes.
 - **Note:** This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Courts.
- SB 65 The measure would have created a civil cause of action for the deprivation of any rights, privileges or immunities secured by the Oregon Constitution or Oregon laws by another person acting under color of state or local laws, ordinances or rules.



SB 168	~	The measure makes several changes to estate laws, including how to show parentage for intestate succession, what property is excluded from the simple estate affidavit limit, when the harmless error law applies, and what kind of discovery is allowed in a probate case.
		Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Courts.
SB 174 A	×	The measure would have designated certain unfair insurance practices as unlawful trade practices under the Unlawful Trade Practices Act, which would have provided civil enforcement and a private right of action for violations.
SB 179	✓	The measure makes permanent the 2024 temporary changes to immunity for landowners who allow public use of land without charge for recreational purposes.
SB 180	~	This measure creates a special motion to strike a claim or lawsuit arising out of a good faith communication regarding an incident of sexual assault.
SB 233 A	×	The measure would have allowed a person to bring a cause of action within one year of the measure's effective date, for claims arising from or connected to medical or surgical treatment, omission, or operation in the removal of a hernia mesh in 2018. It would not have revived or applied to any action settled or adjudicated before the measure's effective date.
SB 275 A	×	The measure would have modified the Organized Retail Theft (ORT) Grant Program and required the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission to report on the program.
		Note: Similar provisions amended into HB 3069.
SB 389	×	This measure would have allowed an individual to obtain a harassment restraining order and established associated procedures, standards, and timelines.
SB 470	~	The measure provides a right of action against a transient lodging provider or transient lodging intermediary that makes or transmits a visual image or recording or audio of an occupant in a private space without the occupant's consent.
SB 484	X	The measure would have increased the claim limit to \$20,000 for civil actions permitted to be filed in small claims court.
		Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Courts.
SB 599	~	This measure prohibits rental housing discrimination based on immigration or citizenship status.



The measure would have defined "environmental marketing claim," "net zero claim," and "reputational advertising" and would have made it an unlawful trade practice to publish or cause to be published an environmental marketing claim, net zero claim, or reputational advertising that is materially false, misleading, deceptive, or fraudulent. The measure would have made a person doing so liable for damages of up to \$200.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Energy and Environment.

- SB 703 This measure would have directed the Department of Human Services (DHS) to distribute grants to nonprofit service providers (nonprofits) to assist eligible noncitizens in paying for immigration legal services to change immigration status.
- SB 939 A This measure would have directed the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (ODEM) to develop and administer a grant program to assist eligible nonprofits in making security enhancements to protect against hate crimes.
- SB 1015 This measure would have directed the Department of Justice to implement a grant program to safeguard communities experiencing disproportionately high rates of violence and set associated grant criteria.
- SB 1123 This measure renders an appointed court visitor immune from liability for good faith conduct within the scope of their role as a court visitor.
- The measure exempts a health care facility, a hospital-affiliated clinic, a professional corporation formed to practice medicine or provide health care services, or a residential care facility from a product liability civil claim arising from a product provided to a patient, so long as the facility or entity did not manufacture or design the product or offer it for sale to the public. The measure clarifies that a physician is exempt from product liability in providing a product as part of health care services as opposed to a medical procedure.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Health Care.



The measure would have allowed private entities to swipe or scan an individual's driver's license or identity card regardless of the individual's apparent age.

Note: Provisions of this bill enacted as part of SB 1005.

The measure provides for standing for an association or organization to seek declaratory relief in the Oregon Tax Court if a member of the association or organization is adversely affected, the interests sought to be protected are germane to the purpose of the association or organization, and the claim does not require that the members of the association or organization who are adversely affected participate in the proceedings in the Oregon Tax Court.

The measure would have expanded upon who may bring a civil action for abuse of a vulnerable person by extending the definition of "vulnerable person" to include those under 18 years of age.

The measure clarifies that the total amount claimed in a small claims case can include identified prejudgment and pre-award interest as well as fees and costs when determining if the claim total exceeds \$750. The measure extends the time from 14 days to 30 days in which a defendant to a small claims matter may settle the claim or demand a hearing or jury trial.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Courts.

The measure establishes joint and several liability for landowners and farmworker camp operators who violate farmworker camp operator requirements and duties unless the landowner delegated the authority to a farmworker camp operator and had no actual knowledge or reason to know of the farmworker camp operator's noncompliance with licensing, registration, and indorsement requirements. The measure expands the ability of an aggrieved person to bring suit against any person for violations related to farmworker camps, to recover damages, and to seek an injunction. It increases the damages recoverable for each violation from \$500 to \$2,000 or actual damages, whichever is greater.

The measure updates Oregon's defamation statutes to include electronic media and requires an electronic publisher to investigate a demand for retraction within two weeks. The measure requires an electronic publisher to immediately place a link to any resulting retraction or correction on any web page containing the subject defamatory statement.



HB 3604

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The measure allows an animal holding agency to become an owner of an unowned, stray, or abandoned cat if the agency satisfies posting, notification, holding, and care requirements. The measure immunizes an animal holding agency from criminal prosecution and civil liability if the agency acted in compliance with the measure.

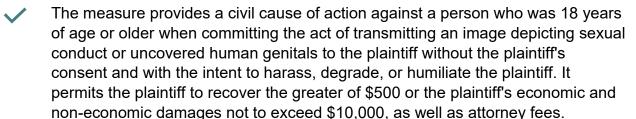
Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Criminal Justice.

HB 3605



The measure establishes that violations of the Oregon Home Solicitation Act are unlawful practices under the Unlawful Trade Practices Act.

HB 3766



HB 3865



This measure expands the definitions of telephone solicitations and autodialers to include text messages and restricts the time, frequency, and manner of such solicitations.

HB 3929



The measure modifies the confidentiality protections for peer support services in ORS 181A.835. The measure restructures the definitions in ORS 181A.835 so that the confidentiality protections cover "peer support services," not just "peer support counseling sessions," provided by "public safety agencies," "mass transit districts," and "emergency services providers" to their employees via designated and trained "peer supporters," and the measure defines these terms. The measure places limits on the circumstances under which these communications are confidential and clarifies that the covered communications are confidential, are not admissible in judicial proceedings, and are not public records. The measure also adds the Marshal's Office of the Oregon Judicial Department to the definition of "public safety agency."



Civil Commitment

HB 2005



The measure changes and clarifies the criteria for civil commitment, makes modifications to the civil commitment process, and modifies processes for Declarations of Mental Health Treatment. It expands civil commitment of extremely dangerous persons to include attempts when those attempts created an actual or extreme risk of grave or potentially lethal physical injury to another person. It directs a study and Task Force on the intersection of tribal and state courts regarding forensic behavioral health.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Reports on Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice. Governor Tina Kotek issued a signing letter – see the signing letter for HB 2005.

HB 2311

The measure would have added the Oregon Health Authority to the list of agencies that are exempt from the requirement to use administrative law judges assigned by the Office of Administrative Hearings to conduct contested case hearings when the hearing is for the purpose of a contested case hearing involving the Oregon State Hospital.

Note: Similar provisions amended into HB 2005. This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Reports on Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice.

HB 2467 A



The measure would have modified the criteria qualifying a person to be hospitalized involuntarily and would have listed factors the court may consider when determining whether someone meets those criteria.

Note: Similar provisions amended into HB 2005. This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Behavioral Health.

HB 2481 A



The measure would have facilitated the use of the Office of the Public Guardian and Conservator in aid and assist cases and would have modified the procedure for appointing counsel for a person facing civil commitment.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Reports on Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice.

HB 2488



The measure would have required the Oregon Health Authority to study civil commitment criteria.

Note: This measure was introduced as a placeholder. This measure is crosslisted in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Behavioral Health.



Family Law

SB 97

The measure authorizes counties to increase fees for marriage licenses and Declarations of Domestic Partnership up to \$35 above the base fee (\$25) and permits periodic adjustments based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). It requires each county treasurer to provide quarterly financial reports on conciliation and mediation accounts to the presiding judge of the judicial district in which the county is located. Finally, the measure directs the presiding judge of each judicial district to provide an annual financial report of the conciliation and mediation account to the State Court Administrator and sets deadlines for the first quarterly reports by October 31, 2025, and annual reports by July 31, 2026.

SB 163



The measure modifies Oregon's parentage laws by incorporating provisions from the Uniform Parentage Act (UPA) and modifying existing statutes. It revises and adds definitions, establishes and refines parentage presumptions, updates procedures for adjudicating parentage, and addresses parentage in cases involving assisted reproduction and surrogacy. It amends provisions related to child support, adoption, intestate succession, and judicial procedures to conform with these changes.

SB 548



The measure raises the minimum marriageable age to 18 and repeals the exception that allows 17-year-olds to marry with parental consent.

SB 879



The measure would have required the Oregon Health Authority and the Department of Corrections (DOC) to identify each month patients at the state hospital and adults in custody who received compensation for work performed at the state hospital or through a program operated by DOC or Oregon Corrections Enterprises and provide that information to the appropriate child support administrator. The measure would have modified existing processes for rebutting the presumption of inability to pay child support when an obligor earns compensation for work performed while a patient at the state hospital or incarcerated.

HB 2613



This measure sets criteria for the court to consider in evaluating whether a child is in immediate danger before issuing a temporary protective order in favor of one parent or adult to protect a child from another parent or adult.

HB 2638



The measure would have added the word "exclusive" to ORS 107.095(1)(f) to clarify that during a lawsuit for marital annulment, dissolution, or separation, a court may award a party the exclusive temporary use, possession, and control of real or personal property.



HB 2774

X

X

The measure would have required the court, if requested by the petitioner, to issue an order with conditions on parenting time when the petitioner demonstrates they have been a victim of abuse, petitioner faces imminent danger of further abuse, and the respondent poses a credible threat to the physical safety of the petitioner or the petitioner's child, and the abuse involved the reckless use, display, or brandishing of a firearm. The conditions for an order would have included ordering child exchanges to occur at a secure location, requiring parenting time to be supervised, mandating the parent who committed the abuse to complete a court-approved intervention or counseling program, prohibiting the parent who committed the abuse from possessing or consuming alcohol or controlled substances for 24 hours before parenting time, and

HB 3095

The measure would have established a rebuttable presumption that equal parenting time is in the best interest of the child and required the court, when developing a parenting plan, to consider only the best interest of the child and the safety of the parties. It would have allowed the court to deny a request for equal parenting time if, and only if, it finds that it is not in the best interest of the child or endangers the safety of the parties. If the presumption is rebutted, the measure would have required the court to develop a parenting time schedule that maximizes practicable parenting time with each parent.

prohibiting overnight parenting time.

HB 3347 A

The measure also directs the Department of Human Services (DHS) to disregard child and spousal support payments when determining eligibility and benefit amounts for public assistance programs with respect to, or on behalf of, a dependent child or children. Creates an operative date of January 1, 2027, for sections 1 and 2 of the measure.

HB 3348

The measure makes changes to the administration of the Oregon Child Support Program administered by the Department of Justice, including allowing delivery of certain notifications and legal documents by electronic mail, rather than physical mail, if authorized by the recipient. It allows authorized entities to accept an individual's federal Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) if they do not have a Social Security Number (SSN) for purposes of suspending a license, certificate, permit, or registration due to a child support case. It specifies that a later-issued child support judgment supersedes an earlier judgment that involves the same child and parents. It modifies statutory definitions and makes clarifying changes to program administration.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Human Services.



Other Civil Matters

SB 166

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The measure changes the term for persons licensed to practice law in Oregon from "member" to "licensee." It adds a reference to the rules of the Supreme Court in addition to rules of procedure, in laws about attorney default, admission, and reinstatement. It also modifies the Oregon State Bar Board of Governors quorum requirement from two-thirds to three-fifths.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Courts.

SB 167



The measure updates Oregon's Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) to address digital assets and transactions of electronic money.

SB 195



The measure would have modified the definition of "supervisory employee" under the Public Employee Collective Bargaining Act (PECBA) to exclude a guard at a correctional institution who serves in a rank equivalent to or below lieutenant who is prohibited from striking under ORS 243.736 and assigns, transfer, or directs the work of other employees but does not have the authority to hire, discharge, or impose economic discipline on employees. It would have prohibited the Employee Relations Boards from designating to the bargaining unit both guards at a correctional institution or mental hospital who serve in a rank equivalent to lieutenant or sergeant.

Note: This measure was introduced as a placeholder.

SB 300



The measure removes persons who contract with a private security entity for private security purposes from the definition of private security entity, and it clarifies that businesses with their own in-house security are also excluded. The measure defines a private security entity to be any person that (1) recruits, solicits, supplies or employs private security providers to perform private security services for another person, (2) recruits, solicits, supplies or employs them on behalf of another employer to provide private security services, or (3) enters into a subcontract with another person to perform the activities in (1) or (2).

SB 347



The measure disqualifies farmland from receiving property tax reductions if the person owning or legally possessing or controlling the land receives a civil penalty or is found guilty of illegally growing marijuana on that land, with some exceptions.

SB 424



The measure would have appropriated funding, in an amount to be determined, to the Oregon Health Authority for an electronic filing system for records or reports required by the Oregon Death with Dignity Act.



The measure would have made noncompetition agreements void and unenforceable if the employee is a health professional licensed by, certified by, or registered with a health professional regulatory board as defined in ORS 676.108.

Note: Similar provisions amended into SB 951.

SB 665 The measure would have required public bodies to promptly transfer all money collected from fines and civil penalties to the State Treasurer for deposit in the General Fund.

The measure would have made it mandatory for the court to require a person who petitions for appointment of a personal representative to make a reasonable attempt to locate and notify persons of higher priority that the proposed personal representative.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Courts.

The measure would have authorized the Teacher Standards and Practices
Commission to impose a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 per violation and to order
payment of the Commission's disciplinary proceeding costs against the person
found in violation. It also would have changed terminology and the time by which
the Commission must render a decision.

Note: Similar provisions amended into SB 805.

The measure extends the deadline by five years for the Oregon Sunshine Committee to complete its review of all existing exemptions to public records laws. It also changes the recipient and reviewing committee of the Oregon Sunshine Committee's reports to the committees or interim committees on Judiciary instead of the Public Records Subcommittee of the Legislative Counsel Committee.

SB 1003 B The measure would have modified provisions of the Oregon Death with Dignity Act. It would have authorized the electronic transmission of prescriptions and filing of reports, reduced minimum waiting periods, modified witness criteria and consulting provider responsibilities, and created requirements for disclosure of hospices' and health care facilities' policies regarding the Act to patients.

The measure excludes transportation protection agreements from laws governing funeral merchandise, funeral services, and prearrangement sales, and defines transportation protection agreements to include agreements for transportation of human remains and preparation for such transportation.



HB 2008 The measure prohibits a controller covered by the Oregon Consumer Privacy Act (OCPA) from processing a consumer's personal data for targeted advertising, profiling the consumer in certain ways, and selling the data, if the controller knows or willfully disregards that the consumer is under the age of 16. The measure also prohibits a controller from selling personal data that accurately identifies within a radius of 1,750 feet the past or present location of a consumer or a device that links or is linkable to the consumer by technology.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Business and Consumer Protection.

- The measure requires the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training to adopt rules regarding how prior law enforcement experience and training may be recognized toward satisfying training requirements for certification as a private security professional.
- The measure revises statutes to maintain accuracy and corrects punctuation and grammatical errors. It conforms language to legislative form and style. The measure removes obsolete references, standardizes terminology, and removes statutes from inappropriate series. It also corrects citation to federal law and makes other non-substantive corrections.
- The measure would have extended the time to 50 years in which lawyer-client communications and records prohibited from disclosure or made confidential by law will not be subject to inspection.
- The measure also requires a private search party to notify the county sheriff with jurisdiction over where the search will take place 72 hours in advance of engaging in search efforts and provide information such as the missing person's identity and the anticipated timeframe of the search unless approved by the county sheriff. Finally, the measure defines relevant terms and authorizes counties to impose civil penalties for noncompliance.
- The measure would have expanded eligibility for the Address Confidentiality Program to include victims of child abduction.
- The measure authorizes the State Forester, or a person authorized by the State Forester, to issue a citation when the conduct did not take place in the presence of the enforcement officer issuing the citation, if the enforcement officer has probable cause to believe the conduct constitutes a violation based on evidence collected during investigation, including the information received from a credible witness.



HB 2855

The measure would have required the Department of State Police (OSP) to establish public exchange stations for the transfer of children between parents or guardians and for the transfer of personal property. It would have mandated that these stations be monitored by cameras with video footage stored for at least 30 days as a public record. It also would have required stations to be accessible 24 hours per day each day of the year with signage informing the public of monitoring and prohibit denial of public record requests related to child exchanges for failure to pay fees. The measure also would have directed OSP to maintain equipment and accessibility and to adopt rules for implementation.

HB 2916

The measure removes the requirement that a member on the Fire Policy Committee represent and be recommended by a statewide association of fire instructors and instead requires a member to represent fire instructors and be recommended by a fire training association.

HB 2926

The measure authorizes the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training to proceed with the investigation of, or action to deny the application or certification of, a public safety officer or instructor, regardless of employment status and without condition, starting on January 1, 2026, and permits the department to take actions in preparation for exercising the measure before January 1. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

HB 3080

The measure would have established a priority list of persons who must be appointed as an incapacitated person's health care representative if such persons can be located and are willing to serve as the healthcare representative, including the incapacitated person's spouse, children, parents, adult siblings, other relatives, or an adult who meets certain requirements. It would have established procedures, limitations, and requirements related to those representatives.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Health Care.

HB 3196 A

The measure would have appropriated \$18,500,000 from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ) to offset reductions in funding from federal Victims of Crime Act grants and would have appropriated \$3,000,000 of General Fund to the DOJ to fund the Oregon CASA Network.



HB 3926 A

The measure requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to establish the Call Your Mom Program and create a secure messaging system to facilitate secure message exchanges between parents or former guardians and their missing adult children, aged 18 to 30, through behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organizations. It requires the behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organization to determine at intake whether an individual is listed in the system and, if so, notify them of any submitted messages and provide access to respond. It requires OHA to adopt rules for data retention, system security, and message deletion timelines. It has an operative date of July 1, 2026, and allows OHA and providers to begin preparatory actions prior to that date.

Property Liability

X

SB 926 B

The measure would have prohibited an at-fault electric company from recovering the company's costs and expenses arising from a wildfire from ratepayers and permitted a wildfire plaintiff to seek security and supplemental recovery relating to delay in judgment satisfaction. The measure would have provided the Public Utility Commission (PUC) with additional oversight over electric companies' assets and equity, required electric companies to apply for wildfire safety certifications with associated standards and criteria, and directed the PUC to commission a third-party expert report on catastrophic wildfire.

HB 3324

The measure would have established that a health care facility is a not a manufacturer, distributor, seller, or lesser of a product for the purposes of a civil action for product liability if the facility was not involved in the design or manufacturer of the product.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Health Care.

HB 3666

This measure would have required public utilities to apply for wildfire safety certifications, allowed consumer-owned utilities to apply for them, and established associated standards and criteria.



HB 3984 A



The measure would have rendered an electric company liable for federal income taxes imposed on amounts received by a wildfire plaintiff in relation to a civil action for wildfires ignited between January 1, 2020, and January 1, 2025, and allowed a wildfire plaintiff to file a motion for supplemental judgment to recover the same. The measure would have created an associated exemption to the Oregon tax code. The measure would have set out legislative findings and intent to establish wildfire safety standards, and authorized the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to implement and enforce such standards. It would have required an electric company to apply with the PUC for a wildfire safety certification and set out associated standards and criteria. It would have required the PUC to have a third-party expert conduct a study and examine issues related to catastrophic wildfire risk and recovery, and developed a range of scenarios for a balanced solution that would have been reported to the Legislative Assembly in 2026.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Natural Resources.

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