

Courts



This Legislative Summary Report highlights Courts 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.

Courts

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| 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 Civil Law. |
| SB 95 | ✓ | The measure adds five circuit court judges to three judicial districts in Oregon. |
| SB 96 A | ✗ | The measure increases the base salaries of state court judges in the Oregon Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Tax Court, and circuit courts effective on July 1, 2025. Declares an emergency, effective on passage. |
| SB 98 | ✓ | The measure is a courts omnibus that updates laws regarding court authority, procedures, and processes. It clarifies court administration authority, updates appellate laws to permit electronic transmission of documents, modifies paper publication requirements for court decisions, expands a law requiring set aside of eviction judgments, modifies terms and process requirements in family law proceedings, and clarifies language about contempt proceedings in martial disputes. |
| 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 Civil Law. |
| SB 200 A | ✗ | The measure would have abolished the State Court Technology Fund, established under ORS 1.012. |

- SB 484** ✗ 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 Civil Law.
- SB 710** ✓ The measure authorizes the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court to establish minimum continuing education requirements for judges of the county circuit courts, tax court, Court of Appeals, and Supreme Court. It further provides that the continuing education requirements established by the measure must include evidence-based and trauma-informed education related to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and other matters related to interpersonal violence.
- SB 744** ✗ 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 than the proposed personal representative.
- Note:** This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Civil Law.
- SB 913** ✗ The measure would have eliminated geographic limitations on justice court districts by allowing a county to establish a justice of the peace district that could have included the county seat or a city in which a circuit court operates.
- Note:** Provisions of this bill enacted as part of [HB 2306](#).
- SB 1175** ✓ The measure establishes a 15-member Task Force on Removing Barriers to Jury Service staffed by the Oregon Judicial Department and directs the task force to examine topics and make recommendations related to jury participation and compensation, and to submit a report to the Chief Justice, Governor, and interim judiciary committees by December 15, 2026.
- HB 2306** ✓ The measure allows each county to establish or modify the boundaries of its justice of the peace districts and permits the justice of the peace district to include the county seat and areas served by a circuit court. It also increases the amount a judicial officer and county clerk may accept for personal payment of solemnization of a marriage from \$100 to \$200 and allows adjustments based on the Consumer Price Index.
- HB 2460** ✓ This measure reorganizes, streamlines, and clarifies existing statutory provisions that govern appeals from justice and municipal courts.



- HB 2461** ✓ The measure modifies the minimum notice requirement for requesting remote testimony in civil cases and modifies the court's consideration of whether facilities are readily available, to include whether reliable facilities or technology are readily available for the court, counsel, parties, and witness.
- HB 2463** ✓ 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 Civil Law.
- HB 2491 B** ✗ The measure would have established the process a court must utilize upon receipt of a petition for remission of fines, costs, or fees under certain statutes, except as provided in ORS 1.202, and it would have provided factors the court should consider when determining whether to remit a fine or fee. It also would have directed the State Court Administrator to develop a standardized form to be used for the petitions for remissions of fines or fees and make it available on the website of the Judicial Department.
- HB 2605** ✗ The measure contained placeholder language that would have directed the State Court Administrator to study fees.
- Note:** This measure was introduced as a placeholder.
- HB 2632** ✓ The measure establishes a statewide advisory committee on treatment courts appointed by the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court to make recommendations to the Chief Justice regarding treatment courts, changes the terms "specialty courts" and "drug courts" to "treatment courts" in statute, and requires treatment courts to use a case management system designated by the Chief Justice.
- Note:** This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Criminal Justice.
- HB 2633** ✗ The measure would have required the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission to study specialty courts and report back to the Legislative Assembly.
- Note:** This measure was introduced as a placeholder.
- HB 2712** ✓ The measure amends the salaries for judges in Oregon and authorizes the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to take actions and establish rules that promote judicial accountability and fair and accessible justice services.



- HB 2774 ✗ 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 prohibiting overnight parenting time.
- HB 3180 ✗ The measure would have appropriated \$1,250,000 to the Judicial Department for the Washington County Courthouse Replacement Planning Project.
- HB 3499 ✗ The measure would have required a governing body of a municipality to refer an urban renewal plan and substantial plan amendments to the voters at the next regular election date at least 90 days after the governing body would have adopted an ordinance to approve the plan.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Reports on General Government and Election, and Business and Consumer Protection.

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