WASHINGTON COURTS

BOARD FOR JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

April 11, 2022

TO: Judicial Information System Committee

FROM: Brittany Gregory, Associate Director, Judicial and Legislative Relations

RE: Legislative Update

Legislative Updates

The 2022 legislative session began on January 10. In even years the legislature meets for sixty days to develop the supplemental operating, transportation and capital budgets, and to consider prospective legislation. The House introduced approximately 550 bills, and passed 167. The Senate introduced approximately 499 bills, and passed 136. The session concluded as scheduled on March 10.

AOC staff is transitioning from legislative analysis to legislative implementation, and have produced bill summaries for legislation that impacts the judicial branch. The bill summaries will be included in the 2022 Legislative Session Summary, which will be released in April.

With ESSB 5490 signed into law, the Office of Judicial and Legislative Relations (OJLR) is helping the Chief Justice prepare for the Committee's first meeting. Letters will be sent to the leaders of the agencies, associations, and stakeholder groups listed in Section 1(8) of the bill. The letters will solicit agenda items for the first meeting, and request a recommendation for a representative to sit on the Interbranch Advisory Committee.

On April 8, a survey was sent to the judicial community to gauge what tools would be helpful in empowering judicial stakeholders to create relationships with local and state legislative authorities. The survey responses will help inform the creation of advocacy materials and trainings. If you have not done so, please take 3-5 minutes to complete the survey. The survey deadline is Friday, April 29.

2022 Legislative Session

This session the legislature focused on trailer bills to make technical fixes to the legislation passed from the 2021 legislative session. The trailer bills were focused in the areas of police accountability, protection orders, guardianship matters and COVID-19 housing protections. There was also an emphasis on legislation to respond to the *State v. Blake* decision.

There were several pieces of legislation passed by the legislature that will have an impact on the judiciary.

- **HB 1412** (Authorizing courts to waive restitution and interest on restitution if an individual is indigent or incarcerated): Signed by the Governor on March 31, 2022.
- **HB 1735** (Expands the authority for a peace officer to use physical force, subject to the requirement to exercise reasonable care, in additional specific circumstances): Signed by the Governor on March 4, 2022.
- **HB 1901** (Revises provisions governing court jurisdiction over civil protection order proceedings): Signed by the Governor on March 30, 2022.
- **SB 5490** (Creates an interbranch advisory committee): Partially vetoed by the Governor on March 31, 2022.
- **SB 5788** (Makes changes to laws related to a minor guardianship): Signed by the Governor on March 30, 2022.

<u>2022 BJA Request Legislation</u>

At the suggestion of the BJA Legislative Committee, the BJA proposed five request bills this session, and three of the five bills passed out of both chambers and have been signed by the Governor.

- **HB 1825** (Creating a process for filling vacancies in single judge courts): Passed out of both chambers unanimously after being amended in Senate. Signed by the Governor on March 17, 2022.
- **HB 1894** (Broadening the extension for juvenile diversion agreements): Passed out of both chambers unanimously. Signed by the Governor on March 11, 2022.
- **SB 5575** (Adding two judges to the Snohomish County Superior Court): Passed out of both chambers unanimously. Signed by the Governor on March 11, 2022.

<u>BJA Legislative Committee Next Activities</u>

The BJA Legislative Committee is soliciting proposals for BJA request legislation for the 2023 legislative session. Proposals and supporting documentation are due June 20. The submittal form was shared in March and will be disseminated to the court community through judicial leadership.