Judicial Information System Committee Meeting August 28, 2020

DECISION POINT – JIS External Equipment Replacement Funding

MOTION:

- I move that, to balance the budget, the reduced funds for External Equipment Replacement ($789,000) be distributed based on court size, on a sliding scale.

I. BACKGROUND

As each court was implemented with the Judicial Information System (SCOMIS, DISCIS, JUVIS), the JIS fund provided some end user equipment to enable users to access the system. With the implementation of the IP network, and the need to replace "dumb" terminals, in 1996, AOC began supplying personal computers to courts and clerks' offices. The amount of equipment AOC supplied depended on available funds.

JIS General Policy 1.1 provides that, *subject to legislative funding*, the JIS fund will provide personal computers and printers at up to 75% of FTEs for courts and county clerks. JIS General Policy 1.2 provides for replacement of existing AOC-supplied equipment or reimbursement for court-supplied equipment every five years. Pursuant to JIS Policy 1.1.4, equipment is provided to users to enable judicial officers, clerks, court administrators, and their staff to access and update the JIS, do legal research, or for other court business purposes.

II. DISCUSSION

In April 2018, the JISC prioritized the Information Technology Decision Package Requests in priority order for the 19-21 biennium (see table below). Equipment replacement for courts was the last priority. The IT Decision Packages submitted to the Legislature totaled **$29,390,000**.

The priority order for Information Technology budget requests for the 19-21 biennium, passed by the JISC in April 2018:

Title	PRIORITY	Amount Requested
CLJ-CMS	1	$14,486,000
SC-CMS Ongoing Operations	2	$1,440,000
Odyssey Continuing Operations Support	3	$676,000
Odyssey Business & Training Support	4	$2,017,000

Odyssey Maintenance	5	$2,030,000
EDR Operations & Maintenance	6	$1,881,000
AC-ECMS	7	$2,207,000
EDR Future Integrations	8	$500,000
Internal Equipment Replacement	9	$1,913,000
SC-CMS $800k Placeholder	10	$574,000
External Equipment Replacement	11	**$1,645,000**

In April 2019, the Legislature provided $28,534,000 in non-specified JIS funding, and left it to the JISC to prioritize how the funds would be used. The funding provided was approximately $856,000 short of what was requested. Due to the shortfall in funding from the Legislature, there are insufficient monies to fully fund the priorities noted above. On April 24, 2020, the JISC voted unanimously to reduce the 2019-2021 External Equipment Replacement decision package request by $856,000 to accommodate the shortfall of funding received from the Legislature.

At the June 26, 2020 JISC meeting, AOC recommended that the remaining external equipment replacement funding be prioritized for smaller courts because smaller jurisdictions, in general, have less ability to cover unforeseen costs. King County presented a different proposal of how to apply the reduction. Neither proposal was approved by the JISC. This new recommendation is a result of those discussions and uses a sliding scale to share the reduction based on the amount requested.

III. OUTCOME IF NOT PASSED –

If the JISC does not reduce the amount of funding for external equipment replacement and prioritize which courts will receive equipment, AOC will make the determination.