

## Effect of 2009 HB 2813 on the Washington County Law Library

- A bill before the Oregon Judiciary, [2009 HB 2813](#), would have a significant impact on Washington County Law Library operations. (*It would also deeply affect other Oregon county law libraries, especially small and rural county law libraries.*)
- If [HB 2813](#) becomes law, the following Law Library services will be reduced or eliminated:
  1. Hours open to the public
  2. Legal reference assistance to the public, judges, judicial assistants, government attorneys including county and district attorneys, paralegals, legal secretaries, court reporters, interpreters, legal services organizations, public libraries, and L-net patrons.
  3. Legal treatise purchases and research database subscriptions and training
  4. Creation and posting of legal research guides to law library websites
  5. Local availability of legal research materials that exist in print only, treatises and cases and laws not online or not available without subscription
  6. Partnerships with local public libraries and legal service organizations
- A summary of the bill reads as follows (and the full text of the bill is attached):

*“Establishes disability advocacy fee on filings in circuit and county courts equal to 14 percent of filing fee provided by law, rounded up to next whole dollar. Provides that amounts collected as fees be paid to organization designated by Governor for purpose of protecting, and advocating for, rights of certain persons with disabilities. Reduces law library fee in circuit and county courts from 28 percent of filing fee provided by law to 14 percent.”* (Full text of bill from [www.leg.state.or.us](http://www.leg.state.or.us))

### Facts about Oregon County Law Libraries

- **Oregon county law libraries are not funded by taxes, levies, or General Fund revenues.**
- **Oregon county law libraries serve all Oregonians**, not just attorneys or certain groups.
- Oregon county law libraries are funded by a percentage of court filing fees. Filing fees are paid when someone files certain types of cases in Oregon county or circuit courts and a percentage of that filing fee is paid to fund the county law library and legal aid services in the county where the fees are paid. **The people who use the law library services are the people who pay for them.**

**If you want to express an opinion about HB 2813,  
or any other Oregon House of Senate bill, contact your legislators:**

1. You can check online for your own legislators' names and fax numbers:  
<http://www.leg.state.or.us/findlegsltr/>
  2. Email them directly from: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/writelegsltr/>
  3. You can phone the Legislative Liaisons for the same information: 503-986-1000
  4. You can phone your local public library too or their central reference line: 503-526-2577
- You may also contact the Chair of the Oregon 2009 House Judiciary Committee:

Representative Jeff Barker, Chair  
House Judiciary Committee  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR, 97301

<http://www.leg.state.or.us/barker/>  
Email: [rep.jeffbarker@state.or.us](mailto:rep.jeffbarker@state.or.us)  
D-Aloha, District 28  
Session Phone: 503-986-1428