

2000 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1066

Offered January 24, 2000

A BILL to amend and reenact § 8.01-379.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to informing jury of amounts sued for.

Patron—McClure

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 8.01-379.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 8.01-379.1. Informing jury of amounts sued for.

A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any party in any civil action may inform the jury of the amount of damages sought by the plaintiff in the opening statement or closing argument, or both. The plaintiff may request an amount which is less than the ad damnum in the motion for judgment.

B. In any civil action for actual or punitive damages in which the ad damnum exceeds one million dollars, if the attorney has contracted with the plaintiff to receive a percentage of the verdict as attorney's fees, the attorney for the plaintiff shall inform the jury of the estimated percentage in the opening statement, closing argument or by jury instruction.

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