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HOUSE BILL NO. 1431

Offered January 22, 1996

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 8.01-343 and 14.1-195.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to jury commissioners.

Patrons—Moran, Almand, Davies and McEachin

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That §§ 8.01-343 and 14.1-195.1 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 8.01-343. Appointment of jury commissioners.

The judge of each circuit court in which juries are impaneled shall, prior to the first day of October in each year, appoint for the next ensuing year ending on the following first day of October not less than two nor more than nine persons as jury commissioners, who shall be competent to serve as jurors under the provisions of this chapter, and shall be citizens of intelligence, morality, and integrity. Any one judge of the judicial circuit may make such appointment under this section. No practicing attorney-at-law, however, shall be appointed as a jury commissioner. Such appointment shall be certified by the judge to the clerk of the court for which the appointment is made, who shall enter the same on the common-law order book of such court. No jury commissioner shall be eligible to reappointment for at least ~~two~~ three years after the expiration of the year for which he was appointed. For the purpose of this section, the two divisions of the Circuit Court of the city of Richmond shall be deemed to be separate courts.

§ 14.1-195.1. Allowances for jurors; expenses of keeping jury together; fees of jury commissioners and commissioner in chancery for drawing of juries.

Every person summoned as a juror in a civil or criminal case shall be entitled to thirty dollars for each day of attendance upon the court for expenses of travel incident to jury service and other necessary and reasonable costs as the court may direct. Jurors summoned from another political subdivision pursuant to § 8.01-363 may be allowed by the court, in addition to the above allowance, their actual expenses. When kept together overnight under the supervision of the court, the jurors and the sheriff or his deputies so keeping the jury shall be furnished suitable board and lodging. Reimbursement for board and lodging shall be set by the judge in an amount not to exceed the amount authorized by travel regulations promulgated pursuant to § 14.1-5. Allowances and other costs will be allowed a juror in only one case the same day.

Every person serving as a jury commissioner and every person serving as a commissioner in chancery for the drawing of juries for a circuit court of this Commonwealth may be allowed, by the court appointing him, a fee not exceeding ~~twenty~~ thirty dollars per day for the time actually engaged in such work and such other necessary and reasonable costs as the court may direct.

INTRODUCED

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