

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1999 SESSION

CHAPTER 626

An Act to amend and reenact §§ 18.2-457 and 18.2-458 of the Code of Virginia, relating to contempt of court; penalties.

[S 925]

Approved March 28, 1999

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 18.2-457 and 18.2-458 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-457. Fine and imprisonment by court limited unless jury impaneled.

No court shall, without a jury, for any such contempt as is mentioned in the first class embraced in § 18.2-456, impose a fine exceeding ~~fifty dollars~~ \$250 or imprison more than ten days; but in any such case the court may, without an indictment, information or any formal pleading, impanel a jury to ascertain the fine or imprisonment proper to be inflicted and may give judgment according to the verdict.

§ 18.2-458. Power of judge of district court to punish for contempt.

A judge of a district court shall have the same power and jurisdiction as a judge of a circuit court to punish summarily for contempt, but in no case shall the fine exceed ~~fifty dollars~~ \$250, or the imprisonment exceed ten days, for the same contempt.