

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 8.01-396.2, relating to*
3 *appointment of guardian ad litem for minor witness.*

4 [S 1033]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 8.01-396.2 as follows:**8 **§ 8.01-396.2. Minor witness; appointment of guardian ad litem.**

9 *A. In any proceeding before a general district court, the court may, if it determines the*
10 *circumstances so require, appoint a discreet and competent attorney-at-law as guardian ad litem to*
11 *represent the interests of a minor who is called to testify. It shall be the duty of the court to ensure that*
12 *the interests of such minor witness are represented and protected.*

13 *B. When the guardian ad litem, to the satisfaction of the court, has rendered substantial service in*
14 *accordance with this section, the court may allow such guardian ad litem reasonable compensation to*
15 *be paid from the funds appropriated to pay for the compensation of court-appointed counsel according*
16 *to the rates and procedures set by the Supreme Court of Virginia.*

17 *C. If the matter in which a minor witness is called to testify is appealed to a circuit court, such*
18 *circuit court may continue the appointment of the guardian ad litem or may appoint another discreet*
19 *and competent attorney-at-law as guardian ad litem.*

ENROLLED

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