

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 1886
By: Oliveira (Lucio)
Jurisprudence
5-15-97
Engrossed

DIGEST

Prospective jurors are currently reimbursed \$6 for their initial selection hearing and \$7.50 per day for jury service if selected. Because the amounts of money involved are usually quite small, it has been suggested that jurors should have the option of donating their reimbursement stipend to victims' organizations. This bill will allow persons responsible for summoning jurors to provide prospective jurors with a form letter that would allow them to donate all or part of their jury service reimbursements to victims' organizations.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 1886 provides regulations regarding certain juror donations.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Sections 61.003(a) and (b), Government Code, to require certain persons to provide to each prospective juror a form letter that when signed by the prospective juror directs the county treasurer to donate all or part of the prospective juror's reimbursement for jury service to the child welfare service fund under Chapter 264, Family Code, any program selected by the commissioners court that is operated by a public or private nonprofit organization and that provides shelter and services to victims of family violence, or any other program approved by the commissioners court of the county. Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1997.
Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.