

BILL ANALYSIS

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C.S.S.B. 122
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Jurisprudence
4/5/2003
Committee Report (Substituted)

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, in a county with a population of 1.5 million or more, if a prospective juror is removed from a jury panel for cause, by peremptory challenge or for any other reason, that juror is dismissed from jury service for the rest of the day. However, in smaller counties if a juror is removed from a jury panel, that juror can be rotated back into the jury pool on the same day. C.S.S.B. 122 requires a prospective juror removed from a jury panel in a criminal case for cause, by peremptory challenge or for any other reason, to be dismissed from jury service and prohibits the person, after dismissal, from being placed on another jury panel until the person's name is returned to the jury wheel and drawn again for jury service. C.S.S.B. 122 authorizes a prospective juror removed from a jury panel to be placed on another jury panel.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 62.021, Government Code, as follows:

Sec. 62.021. DISMISSAL OF JUROR REMOVED FROM PANEL. (a) Provides that this section applies only in a county with a population of 1.5 million or more.

(b) Requires a prospective juror removed from a jury panel in a criminal case for cause, by peremptory challenge or for any other reason, to be dismissed from jury service. Prohibits the person, after dismissal, from being placed on another jury panel until the person's name is returned to the jury wheel and drawn again for jury service.

(c) Authorizes a prospective juror removed from a jury panel to be placed on another jury panel.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2003.
Makes application of this Act prospective.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

Differs from original by rewording the relating clause.

SECTION 1. Differs from original by amending Section 62.021, Government Code, rather than repealing it.

SECTION 2. No change.