5lr2152

# By: Delegates Shewell, Bartlett, Bates, Bobo, Boschert, Boteler, Boutin, G. Clagett, V. Clagett, Cluster, Cryor, Dwyer, Eckardt, Edwards, Elliott, Elmore, Frank, Glassman, Hogan, Kach, Krebs, Lee, Leopold, Mayer, McComas, McDonough, Miller, Myers, Petzold, Quinter, Shank, Stocksdale, Stull, Trueschler, Walkup, and Weldon

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2005 Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments House action: Adopted Read second time: March 22, 2005

CHAPTER\_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2

### Courts - Trial Jury Improvement Act of 2005 Juries - Juror Payment

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Court Administrator to assess a certain

- 4 surcharge on certain civil cases; authorizing the Court of Appeals to designate in
- 5 the Maryland Rules certain types of civil cases, with certain exceptions, for
- 6 which a certain surcharge applies; prohibiting a certain employer from
- 7 requiring an employee summoned for certain jury service to use certain
- 8 accumulated leave for that service; altering the State per diem payment for
- 9 certain jurors after a certain date <u>under certain circumstances</u>; <del>requiring a</del>
- 10 circuit court to modify, by a certain date, its juror selection plan to alter the
- 11 amount of time a juror serves on a certain jury; allowing a circuit court to apply
- 12 for an exemption to the modification under certain circumstances; authorizing
- 13 the Court of Appeals to grant a circuit court a certain exemption under certain
- 14 circumstances; requiring a prospective juror to provide certain additional
- 15 information on a certain form and certain documentation under certain
- 16 circumstances; altering, after a certain date, a certain limit on the frequency of
- 17 petit jury service; establishing procedures for seeking a postponement of certain
- 18 jury service; requiring a prospective juror to set a date certain with the jury
- 19 commissioner or clerk of court to complete the postponed service; limiting the
- 20 reasons a juror may request a subsequent postponement; establishing
- 21 procedures for a prospective juror requesting a subsequent postponement;
- 22 requiring a prospective juror to set a date certain to complete the subsequent
- 23 postponed service; establishing certain penalties for failure to take certain
- 24 action regarding postponed jury service; requiring a jury commissioner or clerk

- 1 of court to grant a postponement of jury service to a prospective juror under
- 2 certain conditions related to employment; altering certain reasons for a
- 3 prospective juror to be excused from certain jury service; limiting the reasons for
- 4 seeking an excuse from jury service under certain circumstances; authorizing a
- 5 jury judge to require certain documentation for excusing certain jury service;
- 6 defining certain terms; making stylistic changes; making the provisions of this
- 7 Act severable; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to
- 8 jury selection procedures and payment for service on a jury.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

- 10 Article Courts and Judicial Proceedings
- 11 Section 7 202(d), 8 105, 8-105 and 8-106, 8 202(5)(i)1.C., 8 207, 8 209, and
- 12 <del>8-210</del>
- 13 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 14 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

- 16 Article Courts and Judicial Proceedings
- 17 Section 8 101, 8 201(a), and 8 401(a), (b), and (c)
- 18 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 19 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)
- 20 BY adding to
- 21 Article Courts and Judicial Proceedings
- 22 Section 8 201(d), 8 209.1, and 8 209.2
- 23 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 24 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

25 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

- 26 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 27 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings** 28 7-202. 29 (d)(1)The State Court Administrator, as part of the Administrator's 30 determination of the amount of court costs and charges in civil cases, shall assess [a surcharge that] THE FOLLOWING: 31 32 [(1)](I)[May] A SURCHARGE THAT: 33 1. MAY not be more than \$25 per case; and 34  $\frac{(2)}{(2)}$  $\frac{2}{2}$ Shall be deposited into the Maryland Legal Services 35 Corporation Fund established under § 7 408 of this title; AND
- 36 (II) A SURCHARGE OF \$ 25 PER CASE.

 $\oplus$ THE COURT OF APPEALS MAY DESIGNATE IN THE MARYLAND 1 (2)2 RULES THE TYPES OF CIVIL CASES FOR WHICH THE SURCHARGE AUTHORIZED BY 3 ITEM (1)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES. <del>(III)</del> IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS 4 5 PARAGRAPH, THE COURT MAY NOT DESIGNATE TYPES OF CIVIL CASES THAT 6 INVOLVE THE MINIMAL USE OF COURT RESOURCES AND ARE NOT CUSTOMARILY 7 TRIED BY JURY, INCLUDING: 8 1. ACTIONS BROUGHT BY GOVERNMENT ATTORNEYS 9 APPEARING IN THE COURSE OF THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES: 10  $\frac{2}{2}$ ACTIONS BROUGHT BY PRO SE LITIGANTS: 11 3. ACTIONS BROUGHT IN DISTRICT COURT; AND 12 4. CHILD SUPPORT AND CUSTODY CASES. 13 8 101. 14 <del>(a)</del> In this title the following words have the meanings indicated. 15 "Court" means a court in which a jury trial may be held. <del>(b)</del> 16 8-105. 17 (A) An employer may not deprive an employee of [his] employment solely 18 because of job time lost by the employee as a result of responding to a summons 19 issued under this title, or as a result of attending court for service or prospective 20 service as a petit or grand juror under the provisions of this title. 21 AN EMPLOYER MAY NOT REQUIRE AN EMPLOYEE TO USE THE (B) 22 EMPLOYEE'S ANNUAL, VACATION, OR SICK LEAVE TO RESPOND TO A SUMMONS 23 ISSUED UNDER THIS TITLE FOR SERVICE ON A PETIT JURY. 24 8-106. In this section, "day" means the length of time in any 24-hour period 25 (a) 26 during which a juror is required to be in attendance at or in proximity to the court in 27 which the juror has been called as a juror. [A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A 28 (b) (1)29 juror shall receive a State per diem amount of \$15 for each day the juror attends 30 court. ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2006 2005, A JUROR CALLED TO SERVE AS A 31 (2)32 PETIT JUROR WHO SERVES MORE THAN 5 DAYS FOR A TRIAL SHALL RECEIVE: A STATE PER DIEM AMOUNT OF \$100 \$15 FOR EACH DAY THE 33 (I) 34 JUROR ATTENDS COURT FOR THE FIRST 5 DAYS; AND

1(II)FOR EACH DAY OF SERVICE MORE THAN 5 DAYS, A STATE PER2DIEM AMOUNT OF \$50.
<ul> <li>3 (c) The government of each county and Baltimore City may supplement the</li> <li>4 State per diem amount by local ordinance.</li> </ul>
5 (d) There shall be included in the State budget for the Judicial Branch 6 [beginning in fiscal year 2002,] an appropriation to the Administrative Office of the 7 Courts in the total amount necessary to pay jurors the State per diem amount.
8 <del>8 201.</del>
9 (a) (1) The circuit court of a county shall maintain in operation a written 10 plan for random selection of grand and petit jurors designed to achieve the objectives 11 of this title.
12 (2) The Court of Appeals from time to time may adopt rules governing 13 the provisions and the operation of plans formulated under this title.
<ul> <li>14 (<del>D)</del> (<del>1)</del> (<del>I)</del> SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A PLAN</li> <li>15 SHALL BE MODIFIED TO PROVIDE FOR SUMMONING JURORS, ON OR AFTER JULY 1,</li> <li>16 2006, TO SERVE ON PETIT JURIES NOT MORE THAN ONE DAY IN ACTUAL</li> <li>17 ATTENDANCE, UNLESS THE JUROR IS SELECTED TO SERVE IN A TRIAL, OR IS UNDER</li> <li>18 CONSIDERATION TO SERVE IN A TRIAL AND THE CONSIDERATION LASTS LONGER</li> <li>19 THAN ONE DAY.</li> </ul>
20(II)ONCE SELECTED, A JUROR SHALL SERVE ON A JURY FOR THE21DURATION OF THE TRIAL UNLESS EXCUSED BY THE JUDGE.
<ul> <li>(2) IF THE POPULATION OF A COUNTY IS INSUFFICIENT TO MEET THE</li> <li>OBJECTIVE OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY MAY APPLY</li> <li>TO THE COURT OF APPEALS FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM THE PLAN MODIFICATION</li> <li>REQUIRED BY THIS SUBSECTION.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>26 (3) THE COURT OF APPEALS MAY GRANT THE CIRCUIT COURT OF A</li> <li>27 COUNTY AN EXEMPTION FROM THE MODIFICATION REQUIRED UNDER THIS</li> <li>28 SUBSECTION.</li> </ul>
29 <del>8 202.</del>
30 Among other things, the juror selection plan referred to in § 8 201 of this 31 subtitle shall:
32 (5) (i) Provide for a "juror qualification form" which asks each 33 potential juror:
34 1. The potential juror's:
35       C.       Occupation, NUMBER OF FULL TIME EMPLOYEES AT THE         36       JUROR'S EMPLOYMENT, and occupation of spouse;

1 <del>8 207.</del>
<ul> <li>2 (a) (1) A person may not be disqualified or excused from jury service except</li> <li>3 on the basis of information provided by the juror qualification form as it may be</li> <li>4 supplemented by an interview or other competent evidence OR ON THE BASIS OF</li> <li>5 DOCUMENTATION AS MAY BE REQUIRED UNDER § 8 210 OF THIS SUBTITLE.</li> </ul>
6 (2) The determination of a prospective juror's qualifications shall be 7 made by the jury judge on [his] THE JUDGE'S own initiative, or on the 8 recommendation of the clerk or jury commissioner.
9 (3) The clerk shall enter the determination in the space provided on the 10 juror qualification form and on the alphabetical list of names drawn from the master 11 jury wheel.
12(4)If a person did not appear in response to a summons, that fact shall13 be noted on the list.
14 (b) A person is qualified to serve as a juror unless [he] THE PERSON:
15 (1) Is not constitutionally qualified to vote in the county where the court 16 convenes;
17(2)Is unable to read, write, or understand the English language with a18degree of proficiency sufficient to fill out satisfactorily the juror qualification form;
19(3)Is unable to speak the English language or comprehend spoken20 English;
<ul> <li>21 (4) Is incapable, by reason of physical or mental infirmity, of rendering</li> <li>22 satisfactory jury service; any person claiming such a disqualification may be required</li> <li>23 to submit a doctor's certificate as to the nature of the infirmity;</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>(5) Has a charge pending against [him] THE PERSON for a crime</li> <li>punishable by a fine of more than \$500, or by imprisonment for more than six</li> <li>months, or both, or has been convicted of such a crime and has received a sentence of</li> <li>a fine of more than \$500, or of imprisonment for more than six months, or both, and</li> <li>has not been pardoned;</li> </ul>
29(6)Has a charge pending against [him] THE PERSON for, or has been30convicted of, an offense punishable under the provision of § 8 401(c) of this title;
<ul> <li>31 (7) Is a party in a civil suit, except for those civil actions in which a party</li> <li>32 is not entitled to a jury trial, pending in the court in which [he] THE PERSON is called</li> <li>33 to serve;</li> </ul>
34 (8) Is under 18 years of age; or
35(9)Fails to meet any other objective test prescribed by the Court of36 Appeals.

6

1 <del>8-209.</del>					
2 <del>(a)</del>	The only persons exempt from jury service are:				
3 4 <del>departm</del>	(1) A member of the organized militia who is certified by the at as a member; and	<del>e military</del>			
5 6 <del>to the ju</del>	(2) A person who is 70 years old or older who has made a way commissioner or clerk for an exemption.	ritten request			
7 <del>(b)</del> 8 <del>person r</del>	Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, in any 3 year- y not be required to:	<del>period, a</del>			
9 10 <del>than on</del> 11 <del>case; or</del>	(1) Serve or attend court for prospective service as a petit junt term of court, except when necessary to complete service in a particul				
12	(2) Serve on more than one grand jury; or				
13	(3) Serve as both a grand and petit juror.				
14(c)[As] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,15AS to any juror who has actually served on a petit jury for less than 5 days, the 3 year16limitation on frequency of jury service provided by subsection (b) of this section may17be reduced to not less than 1 year by appropriate provision in a juror selection plan18adopted under § 8-201 of this [article] SUBTITLE.					
19 20 <del>on a f</del>	(2) ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2006, A JUROR SELECTION TIT JURY SHALL:	PLAN FOR SERVING			
21 22 <del>SERVI</del>	(I) PROVIDE FOR A 2 YEAR LIMITATION ON E; AND	FREQUENCY OF JURY			
23 24 <del>SUBTI</del>	(II) BE MODIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 8 _E.	- <del>201(D) OF THIS</del>			
25 <del>8-209.1</del>					
27 MAY R	ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2006, A PERSON SUMMONED TO P QUEST A POSTPONEMENT OF SERVICE FROM THE JURY CO ERK OF COURT.				
30 SHALL	WITHIN 5 DAYS OF RECEIVING THE SUMMONS, A PROSI CONTACT THE JURY COMMISSIONER OR THE CLERK IN PER EPHONE, OR BY ELECTRONIC MAIL TO REQUEST THE POST	<del>RSON, IN WRITING,</del>			
	(1) THE JURY COMMISSIONER OR THE CLERK SHAL NEMENT OF PETIT JURY SERVICE FOR A PROSPECTIVE JUR				
34	(2) AT THE TIME OF THE APPROVAL OF THE POSTPO	ONEMENT, THE JURY			

35 COMMISSIONER OR THE CLERK AND THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR SHALL FIX A DATE

1 CERTAIN WHEN COURT IS IN SESSION WITHIN 6 MONTHS FROM THE DATE THE

2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR WAS ORIGINALLY SUMMONED FOR THE JUROR TO COMPLETE
 3 PETIT JURY SERVICE.

4 (<del>D)</del> (<del>1)</del> A PERSON SEEKING A SUBSEQUENT POSTPONEMENT OF PETIT JURY</del> 5 SERVICE SHALL CONTACT THE JURY JUDGE.

6 (2) THE JURY JUDGE MAY NOT APPROVE A POSTPONEMENT UNDER THIS
7 SUBSECTION UNLESS THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR HAS A DEATH IN THE FAMILY OR A
8 SUDDEN GRAVE ILLNESS, OR UNLESS THERE IS A NATURAL DISASTER OR NATIONAL
9 EMERGENCY IN WHICH THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR IS INVOLVED.

10 (3) BEFORE APPROVING THE POSTPONEMENT UNDER THIS

11 SUBSECTION, THE JURY JUDGE AND THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR SHALL FIX A DATE

12 CERTAIN WHEN COURT IS IN SESSION WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF THE

13 POSTPONEMENT FOR THE JUROR TO COMPLETE PETIT JURY SERVICE.

14 (E) A PROSPECTIVE JUROR WHO FAILS TO APPEAR WHEN SUMMONED AND

15 FAILS TO OBTAIN A POSTPONEMENT OR APPEAR ON THE DATE CERTAIN TO

16 COMPLETE PETIT JURY SERVICE IS SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF § 8-401 OF THIS 17 TITLE.

18 <del>8 209.2.</del>

19 (A) ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2006, ON NOTIFICATION BY THE PROSPECTIVE
 20 JUROR OR THE JUROR'S EMPLOYER, THE JURY COMMISSIONER OR THE CLERK SHALL
 21 GRANT A POSTPONEMENT TO A PERSON SUMMONED TO PETIT JURY SERVICE IF:
 22 (1) THE PERSON'S EMPLOYER HAS NOT MORE THAN 10 FULL TIME
 23 EMPLOYEES; AND

24 (2) ANOTHER EMPLOYEE OF THE SAME EMPLOYER HAS BEEN
 25 SUMMONED TO APPEAR FOR GRAND JURY OR PETIT JURY SERVICE FOR THE SAME
 26 PERIOD.

27 (B) THE JURY COMMISSIONER OR THE CLERK MAY REQUIRE

28 DOCUMENTATION OF THE EMPLOYER'S NUMBER OF FULL TIME EMPLOYEES AND

29 THE ISSUANCE OF A PETIT JURY SUMMONS TO THE OTHER EMPLOYEE.

30(C)A POSTPONEMENT GRANTED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT AFFECT A31PERSON'S RIGHTS UNDER § 8 209.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

32 <del>8 210.</del>

33 (a) (1) Any person summoned for jury service ON A GRAND JURY may be

34 excused by the jury judge if the person shows that undue hardship, extreme

35 inconvenience, or public necessity require [his] THE excuse, but only for the period

36 the jury judge deems necessary.

8	UNOF	FICIAL COPY OF HOUSE BILL 1185
1 (2) 2 f <del>or jury service unde</del>		conclusion of this period the person shall be summoned again visions of § 8-208 of this [title] SUBTITLE.
3 <del>(B) (1)</del> 4 <del>MEANINGS INDIC</del>	( <del>I)</del> ATED.	IN THIS SUBSECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE
5 6 <del>PROSPECTIVE JUI</del>	( <del>II)</del> ROR, BY	"UNDUE OR EXTREME FINANCIAL HARDSHIP" MEANS THE SERVING AS A JUROR, WOULD BE:
	<del>F FINDI</del>	1. ABANDONING A PERSON UNDER THE PERSONAL OF THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR BECAUSE OF THE NG A SUBSTITUTE CAREGIVER FOR THE PERIOD OF THE
13 EXPENSES OR OP	AT LE	2. INCURRING COSTS THAT WOULD HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL IE PAYMENT OF THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR'S DAILY LIVING AST ONE INDIVIDUAL FOR WHOM THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR AL MEANS OF SUPPORT.
17 PERSONAL SUPE 18 PROSPECTIVE JU 19 SERVICE WOULD	RVISION ROR TO RESUL	"UNDUE OR EXTREME PHYSICAL HARDSHIP" MEANS A MENTAL IN OF A PROSPECTIVE JUROR OR A PERSON UNDER THE IN OR CARE OF THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR THAT CAUSES THE IN OR CARE OF THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR OF THE INCAPABLE OF PERFORMING JURY SERVICE BECAUSE T IN ILLNESS OR DEATH TO THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR OR TO E PERSONAL SUPERVISION OR CARE OF THE PROSPECTIVE
24 SHOWS THAT UN	DUE OF	AFTER JULY 1, 2006, ANY PERSON SUMMONED FOR JURY IRY MAY BE EXCUSED BY THE JURY JUDGE IF THE PERSON EXTREME PHYSICAL OR FINANCIAL HARDSHIP REQUIRE BUT ONLY FOR THE PERIOD THE JURY JUDGE DEEMS
27 28 <del>SUMMONED AGA</del> 29 <del>SUBTITLE.</del>	<del>(II)</del> <del>AN FOR</del>	AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS PERIOD THE PERSON SHALL BE JURY SERVICE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF § 8-208 OF THIS
		A PERSON MAY NOT BE EXCUSED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION PROSPECTIVE JUROR WOULD BE REQUIRED TO BE ABSENT E JUROR'S EMPLOYMENT FOR THE PERIOD OF SERVICE.
33 ( <del>3)</del> 34 <del>SUBSECTION TH/</del>		Y JUDGE MAY REQUIRE DOCUMENTATION UNDER THIS JUDES:
35	<del>(I)</del>	FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAX RETURNS;
36	<del>(II)</del>	A STATEMENT FROM A LICENSED PHYSICIAN;
37	<del>(III)</del>	PROOF OF DEPENDENCY OR GUARDIANSHIP; AND

1 2	AS BEING	SATISF/	(IV) OTHER DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE MARYLAND RULES ACTORY DOCUMENTATION.
3 4	<del>[(b)]</del> <del>particular ju</del>	<del>(C)</del> <del>Iry:</del>	Any person summoned for jury service may be excused from a
5 6	required to l	(1) be impand	In accordance with rule or law if more jurors are summoned than are eled in a particular case;
	<del>render impa disrupt the p</del>		By the court after a determination that the person may be unable to service or that [his] THE PERSON'S service would be likely to gs;
12 13	the jury del court states	iberation on the re	By the court after a determination that the juror's service may of the proceedings or otherwise adversely affect the integrity of s; but a person may not be excused on this ground unless the scord its reasons for the excuse and its determination that the and will not be inconsistent with §§ 8–102 and 8–103 of this title;
15		<del>(4)</del>	By a party upon peremptory challenge as provided by rule or law; or
16		<del>(5)</del>	By the court upon a challenge by a party for good cause shown.
19	against cap	ital punis	A person may not be disqualified, excused, or excluded from service is a juror of the State by reason of [his] THE PERSON'S beliefs hment unless such belief would prevent [his] THE PERSON al verdict according to law.
23		<del>i juror exc</del>	No person or class of person may be disqualified, GRANTED A IN THE CASE OF PETIT JURY SERVICE, excused, or exempted from cept under this section [or], § 8 209, § 8 209.1, OR § 8 209.2 of this
27		is] THE I	Any person excused from jury service or from a particular jury under or] (c), OR (D) of this section is eligible to sit on another jury if the PERSON'S excuse is not relevant to [his] THE PERSON'S ability to ry.
31		ON'S jur	When a person is disqualified or excused from jury service, the jury rk shall note the specific reason in the space provided on [his] or qualification form or on the juror's card drawn from the qualified
33	<del>8-401.</del>		
34 35	(a) fined not m	1	ployer who violates the provisions of § 8-105 of this title may be \$1,000.
36	<u>(h)</u>	A perso	an summoned to fill out a juror qualification form or a person

36 (b) A person summoned to fill out a juror qualification form, or a person
 37 summoned for jury service who fails to appear or complete jury service as directed,

1 shall be ordered by the court to appear forthwith and show cause for his failure to

2 comply with the summons. A person who fails to show good cause for his

3 noncompliance with the summons is subject to a fine of not more than \$100 or

4 imprisonment for not more than three days, or both for each infraction.

5 (c) A person who willfully misrepresents a material fact on a juror
6 qualification form for the purpose of avoiding or securing service as a juror is subject
7 to a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more than 30 days.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That if any provision of this 9 Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any 10 reason in a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other 11 provisions or any other application of this Act which can be given effect without the 12 invalid provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of this Act are

13 declared severable.

14 SECTION <del>3.</del> <u>2.</u> AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be

15 construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have

16 any effect on or application to service on any petit jury before July 1, 2006 the
17 effective date of this Act.

18 SECTION 4. <u>3.</u> AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take 19 effect July 1, 2005.