
By: Delegates R. Baker and Muse

Requested: November 14, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Jurors - Reference In Court**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that court officers refer in open court to jurors by number
4 only and not by name; and generally relating to the reference to jurors in court.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
7 Section 26
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments**

13 26.

14 (A) If any person by corrupt means or by threats or force endeavors to influence,
15 intimidate, or impede any juror, witness, or court officer of any court of this State in the
16 discharge of his duty, or by corrupt means or by threats or force obstructs, impedes, or
17 endeavors to obstruct or impede the due administration of justice therein, he is liable to
18 be prosecuted, and on conviction to be punished by fine not exceeding \$10,000, or by
19 imprisonment not exceeding 5 years, or both, according to the nature and aggravation of
20 the offense.

21 (B) A COURT OFFICER SHALL REFER IN OPEN COURT TO ANY JUROR OR
22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR BY NUMBER ONLY AND NOT BY NAME.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 1996.