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By: **Chairman, Appropriations Committee (By Request - Maryland Judicial Conference)**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2006

Assigned to: Appropriations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Circuit Courts - Jury Staff**

3 FOR the purpose of allowing a county administrative judge to appoint a jury  
4 commissioner and employ staff; providing for the compensation of a jury  
5 commissioner and staff; requiring the State to reimburse counties for salaries  
6 and certain expenses relating to the employment of jury commissioners and staff  
7 for certain circuit courts for the purposes of jury selection and jury functions;  
8 providing for certain budget limitations; requiring certain appropriations to be  
9 included in the State budget; providing for the construction and application of  
10 this Act; and generally relating to State funding of circuit courts.

11 BY adding to

12 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

13 Section 2-513

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

18 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

19 2-513.

20 (A) (1) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MARYLAND RULES AND JURY PLAN FOR  
21 A COUNTY, THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE MAY APPOINT A JURY  
22 COMMISSIONER AND EMPLOY STAFF.

23 (2) A JURY COMMISSIONER AND THE EMPLOYEES OF A JURY  
24 COMMISSIONER DESCRIBED UNDER THIS SECTION ARE ENTITLED TO THE SALARY  
25 PROVIDED IN THE COUNTY BUDGET.

26 (B) (1) BEGINNING FISCAL YEAR 2007, EACH STATE BUDGET SHALL  
27 INCLUDE AN APPROPRIATION TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS FOR

1 THE TOTAL AMOUNT NEEDED TO REIMBURSE EACH COUNTY FOR A JURY  
2 COMMISSIONER AND STAFF AS DESCRIBED UNDER THIS SECTION.

3 (2) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2006, TO THE EXTENT PROVIDED IN THE STATE  
4 BUDGET FOR A COUNTY, THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS SHALL  
5 REIMBURSE THE COUNTY ON A QUARTERLY BASIS FOR PERSONNEL EXPENSES, NOT  
6 TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED BY THE COUNTY IN THE CURRENT FISCAL  
7 YEAR FOR THE JURY COMMISSIONER AND JURY STAFF DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act does not relieve  
9 any county, including Baltimore City, of its duty to provide staff for the jury functions  
10 of the circuit court for the county.

11 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act may not be  
12 construed to assume any liability incurred by a county, including Baltimore City, in  
13 connection with providing jury functions of the circuit court for the county.

14 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is not intended  
15 and shall not be construed to reduce the number of positions in any office of a clerk of  
16 the circuit court.

17 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 July 1, 2006.