

SENATE BILL 16

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2lr0720

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Senators Ramirez, Miller, Rosapepe, Peters, Forehand, and Montgomery**

Requested: October 17, 2011

Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2012

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Jury Service – Employers – Prohibited Acts**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting an employer from requiring an individual to work on a
4 day in which an individual spends more than a certain number of hours
5 performing jury service or acts related to jury service; prohibiting an employer
6 from depriving an individual of employment or coercing, intimidating, or
7 threatening to discharge an individual for exercising a certain right to refrain
8 from work for performing jury service or acts relating to jury service; and
9 generally relating to jury service.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
12 Section 8–501
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

18 8–501.

19 (a) An employer may not deprive an individual of employment or coerce,
20 intimidate, or threaten to discharge an individual because the individual [loses]:

21 **(1) LOSES** employment time in responding to a summons under this
22 title or attending, or being in proximity to, a circuit court for jury service under this
23 title; **OR**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2) EXERCISES A RIGHT TO REFRAIN FROM WORK UNDER**
2 **SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.**

3 **(B) AN EMPLOYER MAY NOT REQUIRE AN INDIVIDUAL TO WORK ON A**
4 **DAY IN WHICH AN INDIVIDUAL SPENDS MORE THAN 3 HOURS IN RESPONDING TO**
5 **A SUMMONS UNDER THIS TITLE OR ATTENDING, OR BEING IN PROXIMITY TO, A**
6 **CIRCUIT COURT FOR JURY SERVICE UNDER THIS TITLE.**

7 **[(b)] (C)** A person who violates any provision of this section is subject to a
8 fine not exceeding \$1,000.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 October 1, 2012.