

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to juries; amending s. 40.013,
3 F.S.; providing for permanent excusal of
4 certain persons from jury service; amending s.
5 40.24, F.S., relating to compensation for juror
6 service; authorizing donation of juror
7 compensation to a program specified by a
8 certified guardian ad litem program or to a
9 domestic violence shelter; providing duties of
10 the clerk of court and guidelines with respect
11 to receipt or expenditures of such donated
12 moneys; providing an effective date.

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14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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16 Section 1. Subsection (8) of section 40.013, Florida
17 Statutes, is amended to read:

18 40.013 Persons disqualified or excused from jury
19 service.--

20 (8) A person 70 years of age or older shall be excused
21 from jury service upon request. A person 70 years of age or
22 older may also be permanently excused from jury service upon
23 written request. A person who is permanently excused from jury
24 service may subsequently request, in writing, to be included
25 in future jury lists provided such person meets the
26 qualifications required by this chapter.

27 Section 2. Subsection (8) is added to section 40.24,
28 Florida Statutes, to read:

29 40.24 Compensation and reimbursement policy.--

30 (8) In circuits that elect to allow jurors to donate
31 their jury service fee upon conclusion of juror service, each

1 juror may irrevocably donate all of the juror's compensation
2 to the 26 U.S.C. s. 501(c)(3) organization specified by the
3 guardian ad litem program or to a domestic violence shelter as
4 specified annually on a rotating basis by the clerk of court
5 in the circuit for the juror's county of residence. The funds
6 collected may not reduce or offset the amount of compensation
7 that the guardian ad litem program or domestic violence
8 shelter would otherwise receive from the state. The clerk of
9 court shall ensure that all jurors are given written notice at
10 the conclusion of their service that they have the option to
11 so donate their compensation, and that the applicable program
12 specified by the guardian ad litem program or a domestic
13 violence shelter receives all funds donated by the jurors.
14 Any guardian ad litem program receiving donations of juror
15 compensation must expend such moneys on services for children
16 for whom guardians ad litem have been appointed.

17 Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 1997.
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