

By Senator Powell

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to juror sanctions; amending s. 40.23,
3 F.S.; revising available sanctions for any person who
4 fails to attend court as a juror without any
5 sufficient excuse; restricting a court from imposing a
6 term of imprisonment on any person who fails to attend
7 as a juror without any sufficient excuse and is found
8 in contempt of court unless the person is able to
9 obtain legal representation; providing an effective
10 date.

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

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14 Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 40.23, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 40.23 Summoning jurors.—

17 (3) (a) Any person who is duly summoned to attend as a juror
18 in any court and who fails to attend without any sufficient
19 excuse is subject to the following sanctions, or any combination
20 thereof:

21 1. shall pay A fine not to exceed \$1,000 ~~\$100~~, ~~which fine~~
22 ~~shall be~~ imposed by the court to which the juror was summoned.

23 2. A term of imprisonment not to exceed 3 days.

24 3. An order to perform community service. ~~and,~~

25 (b) In addition to the sanctions specified in paragraph
26 (a), the such failure to attend as a juror without any
27 sufficient excuse may be considered a contempt of court.

28 However, the court may not order any term of imprisonment for a
29 person who is found in contempt of court under this paragraph

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30 unless the person is able to obtain legal representation.

31 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.