

HB 1499

2024

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 is duly summoned to attend court as a juror and fails
5 to attend without a sufficient excuse; prohibiting a
6 court from imposing a term of imprisonment on any such
7 person who is found in contempt of court unless the
8 person is able to obtain legal representation;
9 providing an effective date.

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

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

15 40.23 Summoning jurors.—

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

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

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

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

24 (b) In addition to the sanctions specified in paragraph
25 (a), the such failure to attend as a juror without a sufficient

HB 1499

2024

26 | excuse may be considered a contempt of court. However, the court
27 | may not order any term of imprisonment for a person found in
28 | contempt of court under this paragraph unless the person is able
29 | to obtain legal representation.

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