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## DIGEST

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HB 905 Original

2024 Regular Session

Freiberg

**Abstract:** Establishes a pilot program for donations of juror per diem in the 19th JDC.

Proposed law allows jurors in the 19th JDC to donate their per diem compensation in whole or in part to an organization that is either (1) formally recognized under Ch.C. Art. 424 for its role in advocating for the best interests of abused and neglected children in the court system, or (2) specifically designated as Capital Area Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

Proposed law requires the clerk of court for the 19th JDC to provide each juror an option to donate the per diem compensation to the organizations provided by proposed law during jury orientation or the juror service process.

Proposed law requires the clerk of court for the 19th JDC to establish procedures for the collection and timely distribution of donated per diem compensation to the designated organization.

Proposed law requires that the procedures for the collection and timely distribution of donated per diem compensation to the designated organization include provisions for donor acknowledgment and compliance with financial management standards.

Proposed law also requires a form distributed to each person registered for the jury pool that has the mission of CASA and the voluntary option to assign fees due to them as a tax-deductible donation to the organization.

Proposed law provides for the purpose of the program and requires the Juror Office of the 19th JDC to send a monthly check of individual juror payments to CASA along with the names, addresses, and amounts donated of the individual juror for a mailed tax-deductible receipt.

Proposed law also provides that any information provided to CASA by the Juror Office shall remain private.

Proposed law requires that CASA be designated exclusively for the per diem donations during the two-year pilot program. Proposed law also provides that donations made to the designated organization pursuant to proposed law shall be utilized exclusively for supporting its mission within the jurisdiction of the 19th JDC.

(Adds R.S. 13:3049.2)