

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

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 9, 2012

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

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

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

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
13 Section 8–501
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

19 8–501.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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

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

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

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

12 **(B) AN EMPLOYER MAY NOT REQUIRE AN INDIVIDUAL TO WORK**
13 **BETWEEN 12:00 A.M. AND 11:59 P.M. ON A DAY IN WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL IS**
14 **EXPECTED TO RESPOND TO A SUMMONS UNDER THIS TITLE OR ATTEND, OR BE**
15 **IN PROXIMITY TO, A CIRCUIT COURT FOR JURY SERVICE UNDER THIS TITLE.**

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

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

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.