

2020 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 270

BY SENATOR FIELDS

COURTS. Provides that jurors be paid an amount at equal to the amount that jurors in federal cases receive. (1/1/21)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:3049(B)(1)(a) and (b), and (2)(a), relative to juror
3 compensation; to provide for daily compensation; to provide for mileage; and to
4 provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 13:3049(B)(1)(a) and (b), and (2)(a) are hereby amended and
7 reenacted to read as follows:

8 §3049. Cash deposit; bond; duty to attend; compensation; procedure; filing fees

9 * * *

10 B.(1)(a) The jurors in criminal cases who attend may demand and receive
11 from the parish treasury compensation and an allowance for mileage necessarily
12 traveled going to and from the courthouse ~~to be fixed by the district judges of each~~
13 ~~judicial district, sitting en banc, subject to approval by the parish governing~~
14 ~~authority.~~

15 (b) The compensation shall be ~~twenty-five dollars~~ **equal to the amount that**
16 **jurors in federal cases receive** for each day of attendance in court, and the mileage
17 allowance shall be ~~not less than sixteen cents per mile nor more than~~ **at** the rate in

1 effect for state officials.

2 * * *

3 (2)(a) Except as provided by special law, the jurors in civil cases who attend
 4 may demand and receive ~~twenty-five dollars~~ **an amount that jurors in federal**
 5 **cases receive** for each day of attendance in court and ~~sixteen cents~~ **the rate in effect**
 6 **for state officials** for each mile necessarily traveled in going to and returning from
 7 the courthouse. Only one charge shall be made for mileage each way. At the time of
 8 posting bond, the party praying for the jury shall pay to the clerk of court the sum of
 9 one hundred and fifty dollars as jury filing fees. In addition, prior to the
 10 commencement of the trial, the party praying for the jury shall post a bond pursuant
 11 to Code of Civil Procedure Article 1734 or deposit the amount ordered by the court
 12 pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Article 1734.1. If the trial exceeds the estimated
 13 number of days, the party praying for the jury shall post an additional bond or make
 14 an additional deposit as ordered by the court. However, no party praying for a jury
 15 trial under the provisions of this Subsection shall be required to pay any costs or
 16 advance deposit imposed under the provisions of this Subsection if such has been
 17 waived or an order is rendered, pursuant to Chapter 5 of Title I of Book IX of the
 18 Code of Civil Procedure, permitting the applicant to litigate or continue to litigate
 19 without payment of such costs or furnishing security therefor.

20 * * *

21 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2021.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

DIGEST

SB 270 Original 2020 Regular Session Fields

Present law provides that jurors in criminal, civil, and criminal grand jury cases receive \$25 in compensation for each day of attendance in court.

Proposed law sets all juror compensation at the federal rate which is currently \$50 per day.

Present law provides that jurors in criminal and criminal grand jury cases receive a mileage reimbursement to be fixed by the district judges of each judicial district, sitting en banc, subject to approval by the parish governing authority in an amount between 16 cents per mile and the rate in effect for state officials, currently 57.5 cents per mile.

Proposed law sets the mileage reimbursement for jurors in criminal and criminal grand jury cases at the rate in effect for state officials, currently 57.5 cents per mile.

Present law provides that jurors in civil cases receive a mileage reimbursement of 16 cents per mile.

Proposed law sets the mileage reimbursement for jurors in civil cases at the rate in effect for state officials, currently 57.5 cents per mile.

Effective January 1, 2021.

(Amends R.S. 13:3049(B)(1)(a) and (b), and (2)(a))