

Commissioner's Court Agenda Request

I request permission to be included on the next Commissioner's Court Agenda to discuss HB#3474 Article 8 - increase jurors pay.

The increase takes effect on September 1, 2023.

Beginning this date, jurors are to be paid, not less than \$20 for the 1st day of service and not less than \$58 for each day thereafter. Attached you will find the section of HB3474 with the change.

I am requesting your approval to pay \$20 for the 1st day and \$60 for each additional day for the following reasons:

1. This would simplify the payment process so that on any given payment day, we were only handling twenties, as opposed to twenties, fives and ones.
2. It would be easier for the Treasurer to balance the juror pay and its paperwork after each use of the money.
3. The small increase above the minimum amount might encourage potential jurors, many of whom are already losing a day of pay at work by being present and serving as a juror. The employer is not required to pay the employee for any time missed from work due to jury service.

The last juror pay increase was in 2011. Commissioner Court approved juror pay of \$10 for the 1st day and \$40 for each additional day of service.

I'm not opposed to you further increasing any of the amounts above if you choose to do so.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lisa Pitre
District Clerk
Sabine County, Texas



Lisa Pitre, District Clerk

County of Sabine

P.O. Box 850
Hemphill, Texas 75948
(409) 787-2912

August 24, 2023

County Judge Daryl Melton
Commissioner Brent Cox, Pct. 1
Commissioner Keith Nabors, Pct. 2
Commissioner Stanley Jacks, Pct. 3
Commissioner James Lowe, Pct. 4

RE: HB 3474, Article 8-increase in jurors pay

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3. The small increase above the minimum amount might encourage potential jurors, many of whom are already losing a day of pay at work by being present and serving as a juror. The employer is not required to pay the employee for any time missed from work due to jury service.

The last juror pay increase was in 2011. Commissioner Court approved juror pay of \$10 for the 1st day and \$40 for each additional day of service.

I'm not opposed to you further increasing any of the amounts above if you choose to do so.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Pitre".

Lisa Pitre
District Clerk
Sabine County, Texas

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(1) the secretary of state; and

(2) the prosecuting attorney for the court to which the grand jurors were summoned for investigation into whether any person made a false claim concerning the person's qualification under Subsection (a)(2), (7), or (8).

SECTION 7.004. Articles 19A.052, 19A.053, and 19A.101, Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by this article, apply only to the summoning of grand jurors on or after September 1, 2023. The summoning of grand jurors before September 1, 2023, is governed by the law in effect immediately before September 1, 2023, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

~~*~~ ARTICLE 8. JURORS AND JURY SERVICE

SECTION 8.001. Section 61.001(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (c), a person who reports for jury service in response to the process of a court is entitled to receive as reimbursement for travel and other expenses an amount:

(1) not less than \$20 [~~\$6~~] for the first day or fraction of the first day the person is in attendance in court in response to the process and discharges the person's duty for that day; and

(2) not less than \$58 [~~\$40~~] for each day or fraction of each day the person is in attendance in court in response to the process after the first day and discharges the person's duty for that day.