

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1524 Session of
2002

INTRODUCED BY ORIE, KITCHEN, COSTA, HELFRICK, LEMMOND,
C. WILLIAMS, WAUGH, MURPHY, A. WILLIAMS, CONTI AND GREENLEAF,
SEPTEMBER 20, 2002

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2002

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for the term of
3 jury duty; and further providing for the selection of
4 prospective jurors and their compensation.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 42 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 4504. Term of jury duty.

10 The length of the term of jury duty shall be one day, except
11 that if a juror is impaneled on a jury trial which lasts more
12 than one day, the term of jury duty shall be the length of that
13 trial.

14 Section 2. Sections 4521(a) and 4561(a) of Title 42 are
15 amended to read:

16 § 4521. Selection of prospective jurors.

17 (a) Preparation of master list of prospective jurors.--At
18 least annually the jury selection commission shall prepare a

1 master list of prospective jurors. The list shall contain all
2 voter registration lists for the county, which lists may be
3 incorporated by reference, or names from such other lists which
4 in the opinion of the commission will provide a number of names
5 of prospective jurors which is equal to or greater than the
6 number of names contained in the voter registration list. The
7 commission [may, but will not be required to,] shall supplement
8 the master list of prospective jurors [to include, without being
9 limited to,] by including persons in any of the following
10 categories:

11 (1) Persons listed in telephone, city, municipal
12 directories and similar directories.

13 (2) Persons who pay taxes or are assessed for taxes
14 imposed by any political subdivisions.

15 (3) Persons in the county participating in any State,
16 county or local program authorized by law and, to the extent
17 such names are available, persons participating in any
18 Federal program authorized by law.

19 (4) Persons who are on school census lists.

20 (5) Any other person whose name does not appear in the
21 master list of prospective jurors and who meets the
22 qualifications for jurors set forth in this chapter and who
23 makes application to the commission to be listed on the
24 master list of prospective jurors.

25 * * *

26 § 4561. Compensation of and travel allowance for jurors.

27 (a) Compensation.--A person summoned to serve as a juror
28 shall receive compensation at the rate of [\$9] \$25 a day for the
29 first three days in any calendar year he shall be required to
30 report for service and [\$25] \$40 a day for each day thereafter

1 in such calendar year that such person is required to report. In
2 addition, persons so summoned shall be paid a travel allowance
3 at the rate of 17¢ per mile circular except that no travel
4 allowance shall be paid in the first judicial district.

5 * * *

6 Section 3. Section 4563(a) of Title 42 is amended and the
7 section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

8 § 4563. Protection of employment of petit and grand jurors.

9 (a) General rule.--An employer shall not deprive an employee
10 of his employment, seniority position or benefits, or threaten
11 or otherwise coerce him with respect thereto, because the
12 employee receives a summons, responds thereto, serves as a juror
13 or attends court for prospective jury service. [Nothing in this
14 section shall be construed to require the employer to compensate
15 the employee for employment time lost because of such jury
16 service.]

17 * * *

18 (f) Full compensation.--

19 (1) An employee shall be entitled to receive full
20 compensation from his employer, less any compensation and
21 travel allowance that he receives from serving as a juror
22 under section 4561(a) (relating to compensation of and travel
23 allowance for jurors), for not more than five days of jury
24 service.

25 (2) An employer may compensate the employee for
26 employment time lost due to jury service beyond five days and
27 may require the employee to submit proof of total
28 compensation and travel allowance paid to the employee while
29 serving as a juror.

30 (3) This subsection shall apply only to employers who

1 employ 31 or more employees.

2 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.