BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 1204 By: Giddings Judiciary Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

When the daily juror pay was raised by the 79th Legislature, an unintended consequence was that jurors who had been willing to contribute a small amount to charity were less willing to contribute the whole of their increased compensation. The purpose of this bill is to permit a juror to donate a portion of the daily reimbursement to charity.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

The bill would amend the Government Code to permit a prospective juror to direct the county treasurer to donate all, or a specified portion of the juror's choosing, of the daily reimbursement for jury service to certain charitable programs. The current statute does not provide any option to donate less than all of such reimbursement.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2007.