

By: Hinojsa

S.B. No. 1675

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to donations of juror reimbursements.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 61.003, Government Code, as amended by Chapters 661 (H.B. 1204) and 1378 (S.B. 560), Acts of the 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007, is reenacted and amended to read as follows:

(a) Each person who reports for jury service shall be personally provided a form letter that when signed by the person directs the county treasurer to donate all, or a specific amount designated by the person, of the person's daily reimbursement under this chapter to:

(1) the compensation to victims of crime fund under Subchapter B, Chapter 56, Code of Criminal Procedure;

(2) the child welfare, child protective services, or child services board of the county appointed under Section 264.005, Family Code, that serves abused and neglected children;

(3) any program selected by the commissioners court that is operated by a public or private nonprofit organization and that provides shelter and services to victims of family violence; or

(4) any other program approved by the commissioners court of the county, including a program established under Article 56.04(f), Code of Criminal Procedure, that offers psychological

1 counseling to jurors in criminal cases involving graphic evidence
2 or testimony.

3 SECTION 2. Section 61.003, Government Code, is amended by
4 adding Subsection (a-2) to read as follows:

5 (a-2) The form letter provided under Subsection (a) must
6 contain a brief description of the programs designated for donation
7 under that subsection.

8 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
9 to donations from jurors appearing in response to a summons issued
10 on or after the effective date of this Act.

11 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.