

By: Blanco

H.B. No. 3996

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the donation of juror reimbursements.

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

SECTION 1. Section 61.003(a), Government Code, is 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 counseling to jurors in criminal cases involving graphic evidence or testimony; or

1           (5) a veterans court program established by the  
2 commissioners court as provided by Chapter 124.

3           SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
4 to donations from jurors appearing in response to a summons issued  
5 on or after the effective date of this Act.

6           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.