

# ACT No. 688

HOUSE BILL NO. 1011

BY REPRESENTATIVES FREIBERG, BAYHAM, BEAULLIEU, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BOUDREAUX, CARVER, CHASSION, COX, ECHOLS, EDMONSTON, FISHER, FREEMAN, GADBERRY, GLORIOSO, GREEN, DANA HENRY, HILFERTY, JACKSON, MIKE JOHNSON, LACOMBE, LAFLEUR, TERRY LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, MILLER, MURRAY, OWEN, TAYLOR, THOMAS, WALTERS, AND WYBLE

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:3049.2 and R.S. 44:4.1(B)(6), relative to juror per diem  
3 compensation; to authorize jurors to voluntarily donate their per diem compensation  
4 to court appointed special advocates; to provide for the use of the donations; to  
5 exempt certain information from public records; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 13:3049.2 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §3049.2. ~~Nineteenth Judicial District; pilot program; donation~~ Donation of juror per  
9 diem; procedures

10 A. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any person serving  
11 as a juror in ~~the Nineteenth Judicial District Court~~ any judicial district court may  
12 elect to donate their entire juror per diem compensation to the court-appointed  
13 special advocate program (CASA), formally recognized pursuant to Children's Code  
14 Article 424 et seq. an organization that meets either of the following criteria:

15 (1) ~~Formally recognized under Children's Code Article 424 for its role in~~  
16 ~~advocating for the best interests of abused and neglected children in the court system.~~

17 (2) ~~Specifically designated as the Capital Area Court Appointed Special~~  
18 ~~Advocates (CASA).~~

19 B. The clerk of court for the ~~Nineteenth Judicial District Court~~ judicial  
20 district court shall provide each juror with an option to donate their per diem  
21 compensation to CASA ~~the designated organization as described in Subsection A of~~  
22 ~~this Section~~ at the time of juror orientation or at another appropriate time during the

1 juror service process. The option to donate shall be voluntary and presented in a  
2 manner that ensures informed consent of the juror.

3 C. The clerk of court shall establish procedures for the collection and timely  
4 distribution of donated per diem compensations to ~~the designated organization~~  
5 CASA. These procedures shall include provisions for donor acknowledgment and  
6 compliance with financial management standards. ~~A form shall be presented to each~~  
7 Each person registered for the jury pool which provides shall be provided with a  
8 form that explains the mission of CASA and offers ~~the~~ jurors the voluntary option  
9 to assign all fees due them as a tax-deductible donation to CASA.

10 D. The ~~pilot program in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court~~ is established  
11 as a voluntary option for jurors to support ~~a court-related nonprofit organization with~~  
12 ~~the Nineteenth Judicial District Court Jury Office~~ CASA with the judicial district  
13 jury office facilitating the consolidation of individual juror payments into a monthly  
14 payment to CASA. The ~~Juror Office~~ juror office shall send a monthly check to  
15 CASA and provide the list of the names, addresses, and amounts for participating  
16 jurors to allow CASA to mail a tax-deductible receipt for their donation. Information  
17 provided by the ~~Juror Office~~ juror office to CASA shall remain confidential and not  
18 subject to disclosure under the public records law.

19 ~~E.(1) CASA shall be designated exclusively for donations due to its~~  
20 ~~court-related advocacy and purpose during the two-year pilot program.~~

21 ~~(2) A designated organization receiving donations under this Section~~ CASA  
22 shall utilize the donations exclusively for supporting its mission ~~within the~~  
23 ~~jurisdiction of the Nineteenth Judicial District.~~

24 Section 2. R.S. 44:4.1(B)(6) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

25 §4.1. Exceptions

26 \* \* \*

27 B. The legislature further recognizes that there exist exceptions, exemptions,  
28 and limitations to the laws pertaining to public records throughout the revised  
29 statutes and codes of this state. Therefore, the following exceptions, exemptions, and

1 limitations are hereby continued in effect by incorporation into this Chapter by  
2 citation:

3 \* \* \*

4 (6) R.S. 13:1905, 2593, 3049.2, 3715.3, 3715.4, 3734, 4687, 5108.1, 5304,  
5 5366(L)

6 \* \* \*

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_