

Carroll, Rhonda

From: Janet_Hall@ctd.uscourts.gov
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2016 11:34 AM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: Legislation to Clarify Federal Jury Service Compensation

Dear Representatives,

I write in support of legislation to clarify that the law requiring an employer to compensate an employee for up to 5 days of jury service includes not only state court jury service but federal court jury service as well. Our goal is to have as broad a pool as possible who are able to serve on juries. However, it is often a severe hardship for a person to forgo his/her daily compensation at work in exchange for the \$40 per day that the federal law authorizes. Thus, federal judges are often faced with excusing otherwise qualified jurors because of this financial hardship.

If the proposed legislation were to pass, our panels of persons eligible for service on a jury at jury selection would certainly increase, thus lessening the expense and inconvenience of calling in more people because of the likelihood that many in the pool will raise this hardship. More importantly, more people would be able to serve, which would strengthen our courts and government in general. It is my experience that those who do serve view the experience very positively, and go away with a positive view of the court system.

Thank you very much for your consideration of these views. Please contact me if I can provide any further information.

Very truly yours,

Janet C. Hall, Chief Judge
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