

REFERENCE TITLE: fair jury improvement fund

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

SB 1006

Introduced by
Senator Kavanagh

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 12-115 AND 21-222, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; REPEALING LAWS 2003, CHAPTER 200, SECTION 13, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2014, CHAPTER 77, SECTION 3 AND LAWS 2017, CHAPTER 141, SECTION 1; REPEALING LAWS 2014, CHAPTER 77, SECTION 4, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2017, CHAPTER 141, SECTION 2; RELATING TO THE SUPREME COURT.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 12-115, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 12-115. Additional filing, appearance and answer or response
5 fees; deposit

6 A. In addition to any other assessment authorized by law, the
7 supreme court shall establish an additional fee on each filing, appearance
8 and answer or response fee charged by a clerk of the superior court.

9 B. The clerk shall collect the additional fee and monthly remit the
10 additional fees to the county treasurer. The county treasurer shall
11 transmit the fees to the state treasurer on or before the fifteenth day of
12 each month for deposit, pursuant to sections 35-146 and 35-147, in the
13 ~~Arizona trial and digital evidence~~ FAIR JURY IMPROVEMENT fund established
14 by section 21-222. The state treasurer shall invest and divest monies in
15 the fund as provided by section 35-313, and monies earned from investment
16 shall be credited to the fund.

17 C. The additional fee may be deferred or waived pursuant to
18 sections 12-302 and 12-304.

19 D. In establishing the additional fees under subsection A of this
20 section, the supreme court may designate by rule that the additional fees
21 not be imposed on filings in types of cases that involve minimal use of
22 court resources, that are not afforded the opportunity for a trial by jury
23 or that do not involve the use of digital evidence.

24 Sec. 2. Section 21-222, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
25 read:

26 21-222. Fair jury improvement fund

27 A. The ~~Arizona trial and digital evidence~~ FAIR JURY IMPROVEMENT
28 fund is established consisting of monies received from the additional fees
29 paid on all filings, appearances, responses and answers pursuant to
30 section 12-115 and monies appropriated by the legislature. The monies in
31 the fund shall not be used for any purpose other than as prescribed in
32 this section.

33 B. The supreme court shall administer the fund and shall adopt
34 rules for administering the fund. Not more than three percent of the
35 monies in the fund shall be used for the reasonable and necessary costs of
36 administering the fund. On or before the fifteenth day of each month, on
37 receipt of a request for reimbursement the supreme court shall transmit
38 monies from the fund to a jury commissioner for monies paid to a juror
39 under this section, together with a fee of not less than the amount
40 prescribed in section 12-284, subsection A, class E for each application
41 for payment of replacement or supplemental earnings by a juror.

42 C. Subject to the availability of monies, monies in the fund shall
43 be used to:

44 1. Pay full or partial earnings replacement or supplementation to
45 jurors who serve as petit jurors in the superior court and who receive

1 less than full compensation. The amount of replacement or supplemental
2 earnings shall be at least \$40 but not more than \$300 per day per juror
3 beginning on the first day of jury service.

4 2. If monies are available in the fund after paying jurors pursuant
5 to paragraph 1 of this subsection, pay for the management and storage of
6 digital evidence and to facilitate the display of the evidence to the jury
7 and court at a trial and related proceedings.

8 D. A person who serves as a petit juror in the superior court may
9 submit a request for payment from the fund. The amount a juror receives
10 from the fund is limited to the difference between the jury fee prescribed
11 in section 21-221 and the actual amount of earnings a juror earns, not
12 less than \$40, up to the maximum level payable under subsection C,
13 paragraph 1 of this section, minus any amount the juror actually received
14 from the juror's employer during the same time period. A juror who
15 requests payment from the fund:

16 1. Shall disclose on the form the juror's regular earnings, the
17 amount the juror's employer will pay during the term of jury service
18 starting on the first day and thereafter, the amount of replacement or
19 supplemental earnings being requested and any other information that the
20 jury commissioner deems necessary.

21 2. Before receiving payment from the fund, shall submit
22 verification from the juror's employer, if any, regarding the earnings
23 information that is provided under paragraph 1 of this subsection. This
24 verification may include the employee's most recent earnings statement or
25 a similar document.

26 3. In order to verify the weekly income if the juror is
27 self-employed or receives compensation other than wages, shall provide a
28 sworn affidavit attesting to the juror's approximate gross weekly income,
29 together with any other information that the supreme court requires.

30 E. Jurors who are unemployed and are not eligible for payment
31 pursuant to subsection C, paragraph 1 and subsection D of this section are
32 eligible to be paid \$40 per day, even if they receive income in the form
33 of spousal maintenance, pensions, retirement, unemployment compensation,
34 disability benefits or other similar income. Commissioners shall not
35 deduct these other forms of income in calculating the amount these jurors
36 are to be paid from the fund.

37 Sec. 3. Repeal

38 A. Laws 2003, chapter 200, section 13, as amended by Laws 2014,
39 chapter 77, section 3 and Laws 2017, chapter 141, section 1, is repealed.

40 B. Laws 2014, chapter 77, section 4, as amended by Laws 2017,
41 chapter 141, section 2, is repealed.