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SENATE BILL 6316

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State of Washington                      58th Legislature                      2004 Regular Session

By Senators Esser, Kline, Johnson, Roach, Thibaudeau and Rasmussen

Read first time 01/16/2004. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1            AN ACT Relating to jury source lists in counties with more than one  
2 superior court facility; amending RCW 2.36.055; and creating a new  
3 section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that superior courts  
6 with more than one superior court facility are asking some jurors to  
7 travel excessively long distances to attend court proceedings. In  
8 these cases, the legislature further finds that consideration of a  
9 juror's proximity to a particular courthouse can be accommodated while  
10 continuing to provide proportionate jury source list representation  
11 from distinctive groups within the community. The legislature intends  
12 to lessen the burdens borne by jurors fulfilling their civic duties by  
13 providing a mechanism that narrows the geographic area from which the  
14 jurors are drawn while maintaining a random and proportionate jury  
15 pool.

16            **Sec. 2.** RCW 2.36.055 and 1993 c 408 s 5 are each amended to read  
17 as follows:

1       The superior court at least annually shall cause a jury source list  
2 to be compiled from a list of all registered voters and a list of  
3 licensed drivers and identicard holders residing in the county.

4       In a county with more than one superior court facility and a  
5 separate case assignment area for each court facility, the jury source  
6 list may be divided into jury assignment areas that consist of  
7 registered voters and licensed drivers and identicard holders residing  
8 in each jury assignment area. Jury assignment area boundaries may be  
9 designated and adjusted by the presiding judge of the superior court  
10 when required for the efficient and fair administration of justice.

11       The superior court upon receipt of the jury source list shall  
12 compile a master jury list. The master jury list shall be certified by  
13 the superior court and filed with the county clerk. All previous jury  
14 source lists and master jury lists shall be superseded. In the event  
15 that, for any reason, a county's jury source list is not timely created  
16 and available for use at least annually, the most recent previously  
17 compiled jury source list for that county shall be used by the courts  
18 of that county on an emergency basis only for the shortest period of  
19 time until a current jury source list is created and available for use.

20       Upon receipt of amendments to the list of registered voters and  
21 licensed drivers and identicard holders residing in the county the  
22 superior court may update the jury source list and master jury list as  
23 maintained by the county clerk accordingly.

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