

1 State of Arkansas
2 81st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1997
4 By: Senator Mahony

S.C.R. 11

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE APPROPRIATE INTERIM COMMITTEES OF THE
ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CONDUCT AN INTERIM STUDY ON
THE ISSUE OF USING DRIVER LICENSE RECORDS AS THE SOURCE OF
NAMES FOR JURY POOLS INSTEAD OF VOTER REGISTRATION LISTS.

Subtitle

REQUESTING THE APPROPRIATE INTERIM
COMMITTEES OF THE ARKANSAS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY TO CONDUCT AN INTERIM STUDY ON
THE ISSUE OF USING DRIVER LICENSE
RECORDS AS THE SOURCE OF NAMES FOR JURY
POOLS INSTEAD OF VOTER REGISTRATION
LISTS.

WHEREAS, many citizens often view jury duty as a burden and something to
be avoided and will even refuse to register to vote in order to avoid
selection for jury duty; and

WHEREAS, voter cynicism and apathy are at all-time highs and voter
turnouts and participation are at all-time low points and voters do not need
another reason for refusing to register and staying off the voter registration
lists; and

WHEREAS, a "jury of your peers" is the driving principle behind the jury
system which is then premised on the concept of achieving the largest possible
cross-section of Arkansas society as potential jurors and the number of
licensed drivers in Arkansas exceeds the number of Arkansans registered to
vote; and

1 WHEREAS, other states have adopted the concept of drawing their jury
2 pool of potential jurors from the driver licensing lists of the state rather
3 than from the voter registration lists,
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5 NOW THEREFORE,

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE
7 OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:
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9 THAT the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas respectfully requests
10 the Arkansas Legislative Council to refer to the appropriate interim
11 committees this resolution requesting they conduct an interim study on the
12 issue of using the Arkansas driver license records as a source of names for
13 jury pools from which to select potential jurors instead of relying on the
14 voter registration lists.
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