

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1831

March 5, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires trial judge to inform jurors in all criminal jury trials, among other things, that they have the right to judge both the law and the facts, that they are empowered to decide whether a law is just, moral, and constitutional, and whether that law has been violated. The trial judge is required to make this statement when the jury pool is established, when the trial begins, and when a jury is ready to deliberate. No juror may be disqualified because the juror expresses a willingness to vote according to conscience. Failure of the trial court to comply with these requirements is reversible error and grounds for mistrial.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumption:

- Requiring these statements will not significantly affect the case load of trial or appellate courts.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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