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HOUSE BILL 2593

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State of Washington                      56th Legislature                      2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Ogden, Carlson and Schual-Berke

Read first time 01/17/2000. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1            AN ACT Relating to exempting physicians from jury duty; and  
2 amending RCW 2.36.100.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 2.36.100 and 1992 c 93 s 5 are each amended to read as  
5 follows:

6            (1) Except for a person who is not qualified for jury service under  
7 RCW 2.36.070, and except as provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this  
8 section, no person may be excused from jury service by the court except  
9 upon a showing of undue hardship, extreme inconvenience, public  
10 necessity, or any reason deemed sufficient by the court for a period of  
11 time the court deems necessary.

12            (2) At the discretion of the court's designee, after a request by  
13 a prospective juror to be excused, a prospective juror excused from  
14 juror service for a particular time may be assigned to another jury  
15 term within the twelve-month period. If the assignment to another jury  
16 term is made at the time a juror is excused from the jury term for  
17 which he or she was summoned, a second summons under RCW 2.36.095 need  
18 not be issued.

1 (3) When the jury source list has been fully summoned within a  
2 consecutive twelve-month period and additional jurors are needed,  
3 jurors who have already served during the consecutive twelve-month  
4 period may be summoned again for service. A juror who has previously  
5 served may only be excused if he or she served at least two weeks of  
6 juror service within the preceding twelve months. An excuse for prior  
7 service shall be granted only upon the written request of the  
8 prospective juror, which request shall certify the terms of prior  
9 service. Prior jury service may include service in superior court, in  
10 a court of limited jurisdiction, in the United States District Court,  
11 or on a jury of inquest.

12 (4) Beginning on the effective date of this act, and ending July 1,  
13 2005, a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW who practices in an  
14 area that has been designated by the federal government as a health  
15 personnel shortage area shall be excused from jury service upon the  
16 written request of the physician. A request to be excused under this  
17 subsection shall be accompanied by such documentation of licensure as  
18 the court may require.

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