

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 6555

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As of February 4, 2008

**Title:** An act relating to notifying the secretary of state when a person summoned for jury service does not meet the qualifications of a juror.

**Brief Description:** Requiring notification to the secretary of state when a person summoned for jury service does not meet the qualifications of a juror.

**Sponsors:** Senators Roach, Pflug, Delvin, Pridemore, Stevens, Parlette, Shin and Benton.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Government Operations & Elections: 2/05/08.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & ELECTIONS

**Staff:** Sharon Swanson (786-7447)

**Background:** A person is competent to serve as a juror in the state of Washington if that person is: at least 18 years of age; a citizen of the United States; a resident of the county in which that person has been summoned to serve; is able to communicate in the English language; and is not a convicted felon. If the individual has been convicted of a felony, that person must have his or her civil rights restored prior to being eligible to serve as a juror.

A person summoned for jury duty must sign, under penalty of perjury, a written declaration that indicates whether or not the person meets the qualifications to serve as a juror prior to their appearance at the court to which they are summoned to serve.

**Summary of Bill:** Requires courts to notify the office of the Secretary of State and the appropriate county election official if a declarant does not meet the qualifications to serve as a juror, with the exception of an ability to communicate in English.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*