
Judiciary Committee

HB 1945

Title: An act relating to allowing prospective jurors who are elderly to choose to be excused from jury service or to remain a prospective juror.

Brief Description: Allowing prospective jurors who are elderly to choose to be excused from jury service or to remain a prospective juror.

Sponsors: Representatives Condotta and McDonald.

<p>Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allows a person age 70 or older to be exempted from jury service.

Hearing Date: 1/31/18

Staff: Ingrid Lewis (786-7289).

Background:

A jury is a body of persons temporarily selected from the qualified inhabitants of a particular district and invested with the power to present or indict a person for a public offense or try a question of fact. Jurors are randomly selected from a jury source list made up of the list of registered voters, licensed drivers, and identocard holders in each county.

A person is qualified to be a juror if that person is over 18, a United States citizen, a resident of the county of service, and able to communicate in English. If a person has ever been convicted of a felony, the person must have had their civil rights restored.

An otherwise qualified person may not be excused from jury service except upon a showing of undue hardship, extreme inconvenience, public necessity, or any reason deemed sufficient by the court for a period of time the court deems necessary.

Summary of Bill:

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.

Any person age 70 or older may choose to be excused from jury service due to age. The court is required to remove the name of a person who chooses to be excused from jury service due to age from the jury source list and master jury list.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.