
SENATE BILL 5691

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senators Esser, Kline, Johnson, Thibaudeau, Roach, Keiser and Fairley

Read first time 02/02/2005. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to jury source lists in counties with more than one
2 superior court facility; amending RCW 2.36.055; and creating a new
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that superior courts
6 with more than one superior court facility are asking some jurors to
7 travel excessively long distances to attend court proceedings. In
8 these cases, the legislature further finds that consideration of a
9 juror's proximity to a particular courthouse can be accommodated while
10 continuing to provide proportionate jury source list representation
11 from distinctive groups within the community. The legislature intends
12 to lessen the burdens borne by jurors fulfilling their civic duties by
13 providing a mechanism that narrows the geographic area from which the
14 jurors are drawn while maintaining a random and proportionate jury
15 pool.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 2.36.055 and 1993 c 408 s 5 are each amended to read
17 as follows:

1 The superior court at least annually shall cause a jury source list
2 to be compiled from a list of all registered voters and a list of
3 licensed drivers and identicard holders residing in the county.

4 In a county with more than one superior court facility and a
5 separate case assignment area for each court facility, the jury source
6 list may be divided into jury assignment areas that consist of
7 registered voters and licensed drivers and identicard holders residing
8 in each jury assignment area. Jury assignment area boundaries may be
9 designated and adjusted by the administrative office of the courts
10 based on the most current United States census data at the request of
11 the majority of the judges of the superior court when required for the
12 efficient and fair administration of justice.

13 The superior court upon receipt of the jury source list shall
14 compile a master jury list. The master jury list shall be certified by
15 the superior court and filed with the county clerk. All previous jury
16 source lists and master jury lists shall be superseded. In the event
17 that, for any reason, a county's jury source list is not timely created
18 and available for use at least annually, the most recent previously
19 compiled jury source list for that county shall be used by the courts
20 of that county on an emergency basis only for the shortest period of
21 time until a current jury source list is created and available for use.

22 Upon receipt of amendments to the list of registered voters and
23 licensed drivers and identicard holders residing in the county the
24 superior court may update the jury source list and master jury list as
25 maintained by the county clerk accordingly.

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