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HOUSE BILL 1945

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Condotta and McDonald

Read first time 02/03/17. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to allowing prospective jurors who are elderly to  
2 choose to be excused from jury service or to remain a prospective  
3 juror; and amending RCW 2.36.100.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 2.36.100 and 2015 c 7 s 2 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) Except for a person who is not qualified for jury service  
8 under RCW 2.36.070, no person may be excused from jury service by the  
9 court except upon a showing of undue hardship, extreme inconvenience,  
10 public necessity, or any reason deemed sufficient by the court for a  
11 period of time the court deems necessary. Notwithstanding any other  
12 provision of law, any person who is seventy years old or older may  
13 choose either to be excused from jury service because of the person's  
14 age or choose to remain a prospective juror. If the person chooses to  
15 be excused from jury service because of the person's age, the  
16 person's name shall be removed from the jury source list and master  
17 source list.

18 (2) At the discretion of the court's designee, after a request by  
19 a prospective juror to be excused, a prospective juror excused from  
20 juror service for a particular time may be assigned to another jury  
21 term within the twelve-month period. If the assignment to another

1 jury term is made at the time a juror is excused from the jury term  
2 for which he or she was summoned, a second summons under RCW 2.36.095  
3 need not be issued.

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

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