
HOUSE BILL 1312

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Representatives Rude, Entenman, Goodman, Ortiz-Self, and Ormsby

Read first time 01/13/23. Referred to Committee on Civil Rights & Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to allowing persons who are 70 years of age or
2 older to opt out of juror service; and 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 2015 c 7 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Except for a person who is not qualified for jury service
7 under RCW 2.36.070 or who chooses to opt out of jury service under
8 subsection (2) of this section, no person may be excused from jury
9 service by the court except upon a showing of undue hardship, extreme
10 inconvenience, public necessity, or any reason deemed sufficient by
11 the court for a period of time the court deems necessary.

12 (2) A person who is 70 years of age or older may request to be
13 excused from jury service if the person attests that the person is
14 unable to serve due to health reasons. An attestation form must be
15 developed by the court and may not include a requirement that a
16 doctor's note be provided. This request must be granted by the court.

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

1 for which he or she was summoned, a second summons under RCW 2.36.095
2 need not be issued. This subsection does not apply to people excused
3 from jury service under subsection (2) of this section.

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

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