



H.B. 742

123rd General Assembly
(As Reported by H. Criminal Justice)

Reps. DePiero, D. Miller, Goodman, Distel, Young, Hoops, Austria, Gooding, Patton, Allen, Vesper, Flannery, Barrett, Perry, Van Vyven, James, Pringle, Sullivan, Womer Benjamin, Myers, Taylor

BILL SUMMARY

- Permits a court of common pleas to excuse from jury duty a prospective juror who is 70 years of age or older.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Under existing law, a court of common pleas may excuse an individual from jury duty for any of the following reasons: the juror is necessarily absent from the county and will not return in time to serve as a juror, the interests of the public or of the juror will be materially injured by the juror's attendance, the juror is physically unable to serve, the juror's spouse or near relative of the juror or the juror's spouse has recently died or is dangerously ill, the juror had been called as a juror for trial in a court of record in the county within the same jury year, or the juror is a cloistered member of a religious organization. Only the judge presiding in the case or a representative of the judge may excuse a prospective juror. If a juror is excused, that excuse does not extend beyond the current term of the respective court, and every approved excuse must be recorded and filed with the commissioners of jurors. (R.C. 2313.16.) Jurors chosen for municipal and county courts are entitled to the same excuses found in R.C. 2313.16 (R.C. 1901.25 and 1907.28).

The bill allows a common pleas court judge to excuse from service a juror who is 70 years of age or older when it is shown to the judge by either the juror in question or someone familiar with the facts that the juror is 70 years of age or older. (R.C. 2313.16(G).)

COMMENT

Prior to the amendment of R.C. 2313.34 by Sub. S.B. 69 of the 122nd General Assembly, individuals over the age of 70 were automatically exempted from jury duty.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	07-17-00	p. 2198
Reported, H. Criminal Justice	12-05-00	p. 2427

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