

HOUSE No. 1545

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Elizabeth A. Poirier

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to jury disqualifications.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>

HOUSE No. 1545

By Mrs. Poirier of North Attleborough, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1545) of Elizabeth A. Poirier, Kimberly N. Ferguson and Susan Williams Gifford that jury duty be made optional for legally blind persons . The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act relative to jury disqualifications.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 4 of chapter 234A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3 9. Such person is legally blind and indicates on the juror confirmation form an election
4 not to perform juror service. For purposes of this section “legally blind” shall mean a condition
5 associated with a finding by a physician or optometrist that a person has a visual acuity of 20/200
6 or less with correction in the better eye, or has a peripheral visual field of 10 degrees radius or
7 less regardless of visual acuity.