

1 S.65

2 Introduced by Senators Rodgers and Starr

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Judiciary; jury commission; qualifications; excuse from service

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to allow a
7 person 70 years of age or older to establish undue hardship, thus excusing the
8 person from jury service, by claiming that he or she does not have a safe or
9 reliable means of transportation.

10 An act relating to jury service by senior citizens

11 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

12 Sec. 1. 4 V.S.A. § 962 is amended to read:

13 § 962. QUALIFICATIONS; EXCUSE FROM SERVICE

14 (a) A person shall be qualified for jury service if the person:

15 (1) is a citizen of the United States who has attained the age of majority;

16 (2) resides within the geographical jurisdiction of the court in which

17 called to serve;

18 (3) is able to read, write, understand, and speak the English language;

19 (4) is capable, by reason of mental or physical condition, to render

20 satisfactory jury service; and

1 (5) has not served a term of imprisonment in this ~~state~~ State after
2 conviction of a felony.

3 (b)(1) No person shall be excused automatically ~~excused~~ from jury service;
4 however, the presiding judge may excuse a person for all or part of the
5 two-year period, upon individual request showing undue hardship on the
6 prospective juror or the employer.

7 (2) A person 70 years of age or older may establish undue hardship for
8 the purposes of this subsection by claiming that he or she:

9 (A) does not have a safe or reliable means of transportation; or

10 (B) has a health condition that prevents jury service.

11 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

12 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.