

SB2525



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

SB2525

Introduced 1/28/2020, by Sen. Robert Peters

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

705 ILCS 305/2

from Ch. 78, par. 2

Amends the Jury Act. Deletes language providing that jurors must be free from all legal exception, of fair character, of approved integrity, of sound judgment, and well informed. Provides that no person who is qualified and able to serve as a juror may be excluded from jury service on the basis of previous criminal conviction.

LRB101 18259 LNS 67704 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning courts.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Jury Act is amended by changing Section 2 as
5 follows:

6 (705 ILCS 305/2) (from Ch. 78, par. 2)

7 Sec. 2. Jury qualifications.

8 (a) At the September meeting of the county board in each
9 year in the respective counties in this State, except those
10 that have jury commissioners, the board shall select from the
11 list the number of persons as the judges of the circuit courts,
12 to be held in the county during the succeeding year, may by
13 joint action determine to serve as petit jurors. In counties
14 having jury commissioners, the persons to serve as petit jurors
15 shall be selected by the jury commissioners, as provided by
16 law. County boards, a jury administrator, and jury
17 commissioners may utilize the services of the Administrative
18 Office of the Illinois Courts in making these selections.
19 Jurors in all counties in Illinois must have the legal
20 qualifications herein prescribed. Jurors must be:

21 (1) Inhabitants of the county.

22 (2) Of the age of 18 years or upwards.

23 (3) Able ~~Free from all legal exception, of fair~~

1 ~~character, of approved integrity, of sound judgment, well~~
2 ~~informed, and able~~ to understand the English language,
3 whether in spoken or written form or interpreted into sign
4 language.

5 (4) Citizens of the United States of America.

6 (b) Except as otherwise specifically provided by statute,
7 no person who is qualified and able to serve as a juror may be
8 excluded from jury service in any court of this State on the
9 basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual
10 orientation, ~~or~~ economic status, or previous criminal
11 conviction. As used in this subsection, "religion", "sex",
12 "sexual orientation", and "national origin" have the meanings
13 provided in Section 1-103 of the Illinois Human Rights Act.
14 (Source: P.A. 100-228, eff. 1-1-18; 101-327, eff. 1-1-20.)