

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact §§ 8.01-337 and 8.01-341.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to jurors;*  
 3 *exemptions from jury service upon request; competency to perform jury duty.*

4 [H 671]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That §§ 8.01-337 and 8.01-341.1 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**8 **§ 8.01-337. Who liable to serve as jurors.**

9 All citizens over 18 years of age who have been residents of the Commonwealth one year, and of the  
 10 county, city, or town in which they reside six months next preceding their being summoned to serve as such,  
 11 and competent in other respects, except as hereinafter provided, shall be liable to serve as jurors. No person  
 12 shall be deemed incompetent to serve on any jury because of ~~blindness or partial blindness~~ *disability if such*  
 13 *person would otherwise be competent to serve if provided reasonable accommodation.* Military personnel of  
 14 the United States Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Space Force, or Navy shall not be considered  
 15 residents of this Commonwealth by reason of their being stationed herein.

16 **§ 8.01-341.1. Exemptions from jury service upon request.**

17 Any of the following persons may serve on juries in civil and criminal cases but shall be exempt from jury  
 18 service upon his request:

19 1. through 3. [Repealed.]

20 4. A mariner actually employed in maritime service;

21 5. through 7. [Repealed.]

22 8. A person who has legal custody of and is necessarily and personally responsible for a child or children  
 23 16 years of age or younger requiring continuous care by him during normal court hours, or any mother who is  
 24 breast-feeding a child;

25 9. A person who is necessarily and personally responsible for a person having a physical or mental  
 26 impairment requiring continuous care by him during normal court hours;

27 10. Any person over 73 years of age;

28 11. Any person whose spouse is summoned to serve on the same jury panel;

29 12. Any person who is the only person performing services for a business, commercial, or agricultural  
 30 enterprise and whose services are so essential to the operations of the business, commercial, or agricultural  
 31 enterprise that such enterprise must close or cease to function if such person is required to perform jury duty;

32 13. Any person who is the only person performing services for a political subdivision as a firefighter, as  
 33 defined in § 65.2-102, and whose services are so essential to the operations of the political subdivision that  
 34 such political subdivision will suffer an undue hardship in carrying out such services if such person is  
 35 required to perform jury duty;

36 14. Any person employed by the Office of the Clerk of the House of Delegates, the Office of the Clerk of  
 37 the Senate, the Division of Legislative Services, and the Division of Legislative Automated Systems;  
 38 however, this exemption shall apply only to jury service starting (i) during the period beginning 60 days prior  
 39 to the day any regular session commences and ending 30 days after the day of adjournment of such session  
 40 and (ii) during the period beginning seven days prior to the day any reconvened or special session  
 41 commences and ending seven days after the day of adjournment of such session;

42 15. Any general registrar, member of a local electoral board, or person appointed or employed by either  
 43 the general registrar or the local electoral board, except officers of election appointed pursuant to Article 5  
 44 (§ 24.2-115 et seq.) of Chapter 1 of Title 24.2; however, this exemption shall apply only to jury service  
 45 starting (i) during the period beginning 90 days prior to any election and continuing through election day, (ii)  
 46 during the period to ascertain the results of the election and continuing for 10 days after the local electoral  
 47 board certifies the results of the election under § 24.2-671 or the State Board of Elections certifies the results  
 48 of the election under § 24.2-679, or (iii) during the period of an election recount or contested election  
 49 pursuant to Chapter 8 (§ 24.2-800 et seq.) of Title 24.2. Any officer of election shall be exempt from jury  
 50 service only on election day and during the periods set forth in clauses (ii) and (iii); ~~and~~

51 16. Any member of the armed services of the United States or the diplomatic service of the United States  
 52 appointed under the Foreign Service Act (22 U.S.C. § 3901 et seq.) who will be serving outside of the United  
 53 States at the time of such jury service; *and*

54 *17. Any person under a disability that substantially impairs the person's ability to perform jury duty.*