SENATE BILL 1101

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By: **Senator Gladden** Introduced and read first time: February 22, 2016 Assigned to: Rules

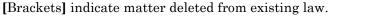
A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

Jurors – Qualification – Prior Conviction

- FOR the purpose of repealing a requirement that an individual who has been convicted of a certain crime and received a certain sentence be disqualified from jury service; repealing a requirement that an individual who has certain pending criminal charges be disqualified from jury service; making conforming changes; and generally relating to jurors.
- 8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 9 Article Courts and Judicial Proceedings
- 10 Section 8–103
- 11 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 12 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)
- SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 15Article Courts and Judicial Proceedings168–103.
- 17 (a) Notwithstanding § 8–102 of this subtitle, an individual qualifies for jury 18 service for a county only if the individual:
- 19 (1) Is an adult as of the day selected as a prospective juror;
- 20 (2) Is a citizen of the United States; and
- 21 (3) Resides in the county as of the day sworn as a juror.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.





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1 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section and subject to the federal 2 Americans with Disabilities Act, an individual is not qualified for jury service if the 3 individual:

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(1) Cannot comprehend spoken English or speak English;

5 (2) Cannot comprehend written English, read English, or write English 6 proficiently enough to complete a juror qualification form satisfactorily; **OR**

7 (3) Has a disability that, as documented by a health care provider's 8 certification, prevents the individual from providing satisfactory jury service[;

9 (4) Has been convicted, in a federal or State court of record, of a crime 10 punishable by imprisonment exceeding 6 months and received a sentence of imprisonment 11 for more than 6 months; or

12 (5) Has a charge pending, in a federal or State court of record, for a crime 13 punishable by imprisonment exceeding 6 months.

14 (c) An individual qualifies for jury service notwithstanding a disqualifying 15 conviction under subsection (b)(4) of this section if the individual is pardoned].

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 17 October 1, 2016.