

HB1440

FAV - Letter of testimony in support of the bill

I am a full time mom, while my husband works full time. When I was called for jury duty, my husband had to take personal time off work because I had no one else to take care of my toddler since I am his primary caregiver. I was called into a courtroom for jury selection and got all the way through the process to being seated on a jury. The trial was expected to last a few weeks. I explained to the judge that if I was selected, my husband would have to take that time off work to care for my toddler since he doesn't attend any kind of daytime care program. Luckily, the judge dismissed me. It felt like a waste of time for the court as well as my family for me to complete jury duty since I was dismissed for a reason which would have been present regardless of the case. Why call someone to jury duty that will be dismissed after wasting everyone's time being there? Serving on a jury is an undue burden on full time parents because not only are they taking time away from their job as a full time caregiver, they are also having to find another adult in their life who will be taken away from whatever job that other adult performs.

Thank you for your consideration to improve the lives of parents in Maryland.

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