

HOUSE BILL 911

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HB 1018/03 - JUD

2004 Regular Session
4r2827
CF 4r2432

By: **Delegates Marriott, Fulton, and Goodwin**
Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2004
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Jury Duty - Exemption - Religious Beliefs**

3 FOR the purpose of exempting from jury duty a person whose religious beliefs
4 prohibit the person from serving on a jury.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
7 Section 8-209
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

13 8-209.

14 (a) The only persons exempt from jury service are:

15 (1) A member of the organized militia who is certified by the military
16 department as a member; [and]

17 (2) A PERSON WHOSE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS PROHIBIT THE PERSON FROM
18 SERVING ON A JURY; AND

19 [(2)] (3) A person who is 70 years old or older who has made a written
20 request to the jury commissioner or clerk for an exemption.

21 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, in any 3 year period, a
22 person may not be required to:

23 (1) Serve or attend court for prospective service as a petit juror for more
24 than one term of court, except when necessary to complete service in a particular
25 case; or

1 (2) Serve on more than one grand jury; or

2 (3) Serve as both a grand and petit juror.

3 (c) As to any juror who has actually served on a petit jury for less than 5 days,
4 the 3 year limitation on frequency of jury service provided by subsection (b) of this
5 section may be reduced to not less than 1 year by appropriate provision in a juror
6 selection plan adopted under § 8-201 of this article.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 2004.