

# SENATE BILL 625

D1  
HB 1213/20 – JUD

11r2468  
CF HB 260

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By: **Senator Carter**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2021

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 1, 2021

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Courts – Jury Service – Disqualification**

3 FOR the purpose of altering certain circumstances under which an individual who has been  
4 convicted of a crime is not qualified for jury service; repealing a provision ~~specifying~~  
5 ~~that an individual is not qualified for jury service if the individual has a certain~~  
6 ~~charge pending for a certain crime~~ made obsolete by this Act; and generally relating  
7 to jury service.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
10 Section 8–103  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2020 Replacement Volume)

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

15 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

16 8–103.

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;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (2) Is a citizen of the United States; and

2 (3) Resides in the county as of the day sworn as a juror.

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

6 (1) Cannot comprehend spoken English or speak English;

7 (2) Cannot comprehend written English, read English, or write English  
8 proficiently enough to complete a juror qualification form satisfactorily;

9 (3) Has a disability that, as documented by a health care provider's  
10 certification, prevents the individual from providing satisfactory jury service; ~~OR~~

11 (4) Has been convicted, in a federal or State court of record, of ~~1~~a crime  
12 punishable by imprisonment exceeding 1 year and ~~received a sentence of imprisonment for~~  
13 ~~more than 1 year~~ **IS CURRENTLY SERVING THE SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR THE**  
14 **CONVICTION, INCLUDING A TERM OF PROBATION;** or

15 (5) Has a charge pending, in a federal or State court of record, for a crime  
16 punishable by imprisonment exceeding 1 year ~~1~~**A FELONY AND IS CURRENTLY SERVING**  
17 **THE SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR THE CONVICTION, INCLUDING ANY TERM OF**  
18 **PROBATION.**

19 ~~(e) An individual qualifies for jury service notwithstanding a disqualifying~~  
20 ~~conviction under subsection (b)(4) of this section if the individual is pardoned.~~

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
22 October 1, 2021.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.