

# SENATE BILL 322

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6lr2775  
CF HB 414

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By: Senator Sydnor

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

### 2 **Courts – Jury Service – Disqualification**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the circumstances under which an individual who has been  
4 convicted of a crime is not qualified for jury service; and generally relating to jury  
5 service.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
8 Section 8–103  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

### 13 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

14 8–103.

15 (a) Notwithstanding § 8–102 of this subtitle, an individual qualifies for jury  
16 service for a county only if the individual:

17 (1) Is an adult as of the day selected as a prospective juror;  
18 (2) Is a citizen of the United States; and  
19 (3) Resides in the county as of the day sworn as a juror.

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

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- (1) Cannot comprehend spoken English or speak English;
- (2) Cannot comprehend written English, read English, or write English enough to complete a juror qualification form satisfactorily;
- (3) Has a disability that, as documented by a health care provider's prevents the individual from providing satisfactory jury service;
- (4) Has been convicted, in a federal or State court of record, of [a]:

**(II) A CRIME INVOLVING OR RELATING TO:**

- 1. PERJURY;**
- 2. WITNESS INTIMIDATION;**
- 3. JURY INTIMIDATION; OR**
- 4. A CRIME UNDER TITLE 8 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW**

17 (5) Has a charge pending, in a federal or State court of record, for a crime  
18 punishable by imprisonment exceeding 1 year.

19           [(c) 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, 2026.