



Maryland Association for Justice, Inc.

2020 Position Paper

HB 1213 / SB 921

Courts - Jury Service – Disqualification

Favorable

The Maryland Association for Justice (MAJ) is an organization of trial lawyers. Our members represent victims injured in car accidents, medical malpractice cases, and other cases of negligence.

HB 1213/ SB 921 alters the circumstances under which an individual may be disqualified for jury service by repealing provisions that disqualify individuals who received a sentence of imprisonment for more than one year or have pending charges for crimes punishable by imprisonment for more than one year. Instead, an individual is not qualified for jury service if the individual has been convicted of a felony and is currently serving the sentence imposed for the conviction, including any term of probation.

The Maryland Association for Justice (MAJ) believes in expansion of the civil justice system including potential juror. All jurors bring with them different perspectives, temperaments, and convictions to the cases they hear. If a juror has been convicted of a felony and served their sentence, then they should be able to exercise their privileges of jury duty.

MAJ Respectfully urges a FAVORABLE Report