

# Senate Bill 684

Sponsored by Senator ROBLAN

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires court to excuse person from acting as juror if person is 65 years of age or older and must travel more than 40 miles to perform service as juror.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to jurors; amending ORS 10.050.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 10.050 is amended to read:

5 10.050. (1) A judge of the court or clerk of court shall excuse a person from acting as a juror  
6 upon a showing of undue hardship or extreme inconvenience to the person, the person's family, the  
7 person's employer or the public served by the person. In applying this subsection the judge or clerk  
8 of court shall carefully consider and weigh both the public need for juries which are representative  
9 of the full community and the individual circumstances offered as a justification for excuse from jury  
10 service. A person may request and be granted excuse from jury service under this subsection by  
11 means of telephone communication or mail.

12 (2) Notwithstanding ORS 10.030 (4), a judge may, by own motion, excuse a juror whose presence  
13 on the jury would substantially impair the progress of the action on trial or prejudice the parties  
14 thereto.

15 (3)(a) A judge of the court or clerk of court shall excuse a person from acting as a juror upon  
16 the request of that person if the person is:

17 (A) 70 years of age or older; or

18 (B) **65 years of age or older and must travel more than 40 miles from the juror's usual  
19 place of abode to perform service as a juror.**

20 (b) A person may request and be granted excuse from jury service under this subsection by  
21 means of telephone communication or mail.

22 (4) A judge of the court or clerk of court shall excuse a woman from acting as a juror upon the  
23 request of the woman if the woman is breast-feeding a child. A request for excuse from jury service  
24 under this subsection must be made in writing.

25 (5) Unless the public need for juries in the court outweighs the individual circumstances of the  
26 person summoned, a judge of the court or clerk of court shall excuse a person from acting as a juror  
27 upon the request of that person if the person is the sole caregiver for a child or other dependent  
28 during the court's normal hours of operation, the person is unable to afford day care or make other  
29 arrangements for the care of the dependent, and the person personally attends to the dependent  
30 during the court's normal hours of operation.

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**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.