

SENATE BILL NO. 223—SENATOR D. HARRIS

MARCH 11, 2021

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to jury selection. (BDR 1-714)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No. Effect on the State: No.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to juries; establishing that the opportunity to serve as a juror must not be denied or limited based on discrimination against certain persons or groups; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law provides that a person is qualified to act as a juror if the person:
2 (1) is a qualified elector of the State of Nevada, whether registered or not; (2) has
3 sufficient knowledge of the English language; (3) has not been convicted of
4 treason, a felony or other infamous crime unless, in the case of a felony, the
5 person’s civil right to serve as a juror has been restored pursuant to statute; and (4)
6 is not rendered incapable by reason of physical or mental infirmity. (NRS 6.010)
7 This bill provides that the opportunity to serve as a juror must not be denied or
8 limited based on discrimination against certain persons or groups in this State,
9 including discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, sexual orientation,
10 gender identity or expression, national origin, age or physical disability.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. NRS 6.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 6.010 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, every
3 qualified elector of the State, whether registered or not, who has
4 sufficient knowledge of the English language, ~~and~~ who has not
5 been convicted of treason, a felony, or other infamous crime ~~and~~ and
6 who is not rendered incapable by reason of physical or mental
7 infirmity ~~and~~ is a qualified juror of the county in which the person
8 resides.



1 **2.** A person who has been convicted of a felony is not a
2 qualified juror of the county in which the person resides until the
3 person's civil right to serve as a juror has been restored pursuant to
4 NRS 176A.850, 179.285, 213.090, 213.155 or 213.157.

5 **3.** *Except as otherwise specifically provided by statute, the*
6 *opportunity for jury service must not be denied or limited on the*
7 *basis of the race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity*
8 *or expression, national origin, age or physical disability of a*
9 *person or any other factor that discriminates against a cognizable*
10 *group in this State. The provisions of this subsection must not be*
11 *interpreted or construed to:*

12 **(a)** *Infringe upon the constitutional rights of an accused*
13 *person under the United States Constitution or the Nevada*
14 *Constitution; or*

15 **(b)** *Grant a potential juror an absolute right to serve as a*
16 *member of a specific jury.*

17 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

