

HOUSE BILL 2677

By Gant

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 22,
relative to jury service.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 22-1-103, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection:

(e) Any person who is seventy-five (75) years of age or older may be excused upon a showing that the person is seventy-five (75) years of age or older and that the person's service will constitute an undue hardship to the prospective juror because of a medical condition. The juror, or the juror's personal representative, must provide the court with documentation from a physician licensed to practice medicine, verifying that the person's service will constitute an undue hardship to the prospective juror due to a medical condition. The jury coordinator of the county shall excuse the person upon receiving the request in writing, which must be accompanied by an affidavit giving the person's name, age, reason, or basis for making the request, and such other information as the jury coordinator may require. Failure to provide satisfactory documentation may result in a denial of the request to be excused. The jury coordinator of each county shall make available affidavit forms for the purpose of this subsection (e). Nothing in this subsection (e) prevents a person seventy-five (75) years of age or older from participating in jury service by forgoing the age exemption provided by this subsection (e).

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 22-2-306(a)(6), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting instead the following:

(6) Process by which the juror may request to be excused due to age or a hardship pursuant to § 22-1-103, including the juror's obligation to submit documentation or an affidavit in support of the juror's request and the availability of affidavit forms; and

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it.