

By: Representatives Hamilton (109th), Baker (8th), Davis, Guice, Mayhall, Read, Shows, Staples, Stringer, Upshaw, Vince, Wells-Smith, Zuber, Clark, Scott To: Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 522

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 13-5-25, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REVISE THE PERSONAL EXEMPTION FROM JURY SERVICE DUE TO AGE; AND
3 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 13-5-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 **[Until January 1, 2008, this section shall read as follows:]**

8 13-5-25. Every citizen over seventy (70) years of age, and
9 everyone who has served on the regular panel as a juror in the
10 actual trial of one or more litigated cases within two (2) years,
11 shall be exempt from service if he claims the privilege; but the
12 latter class shall serve as talesmen, and on special venire, and
13 on the regular panel, if there be a deficiency of jurors. No
14 qualified juror shall be excluded because of any such reasons, but
15 the same shall be a personal privilege to be claimed by any person
16 selected for jury duty. Any citizen over seventy (70) years of
17 age may claim this personal privilege outside of open court by
18 providing the clerk of court with information that allows the
19 clerk to determine the validity of the claim. Such citizens over
20 seventy (70) years of age may claim this privilege for life. If
21 the privilege is claimed for life, a jury summons for any future
22 trials shall not be issued to such person claiming the privilege.

23 Provided, however, that no person who has served on the
24 regular panel as a juror in the actual trial of one or more
25 litigated cases in one (1) court may claim the exemption in any
26 other court where he may be called to serve.

27 **[From and after January 1, 2008, this section shall read as**
28 **follows:]**

29 13-5-25. Every citizen over seventy (70) years of age, and
30 everyone who has served on the regular panel as a juror in the
31 actual trial of one or more litigated cases within two (2) years,
32 shall be exempt from service if he claims the privilege. No
33 qualified juror shall be excluded because of any such reasons, but
34 the same shall be a personal privilege to be claimed by any person
35 selected for jury duty. Any citizen over seventy (70) years of
36 age may claim this personal privilege outside of open court by
37 providing the clerk of court with information that allows the
38 clerk to determine the validity of the claim. Such citizens over
39 seventy (70) years of age may claim this privilege for life. If
40 the privilege is claimed for life, a jury summons for any future
41 trials shall not be issued to such person claiming the privilege.

42 Provided, however, that no person who has served on the
43 regular panel as a juror in the actual trial of one or more
44 litigated cases in one (1) court may claim the exemption in any
45 other court where he may be called to serve.

46 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
47 and after July 1, 2007.