

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

## **An Act To Exempt Certain Parents and Caretakers from Jury Duty**

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §1211**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 60, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

### **§ 1211. Disqualifications and exemptions from jury service**

**1. Disqualification.** A prospective juror is disqualified to serve on a jury if that prospective juror is not a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age and a resident of the county or is unable to read, speak and understand the English language.

**2. Exemption.** The following persons are exempt from serving as jurors:

A. The Governor;

B. Judges;

C. Physicians and dentists providing active patient care;

D. Veterinarians with or in an active veterinary medicine practice;

E. Sheriffs;

F. Attorneys-at-law;

G. All persons exempt under Title 37-B, section 185;

H. A mother who is breast-feeding a child;

I. A parent of a child who has not attained 10 years of age if the court determines that service of the parent as a juror would jeopardize the safety of the child; and

J. A caretaker of an elderly or disabled person if that person requires full-time attention from the caretaker.

### **SUMMARY**

In addition to those currently exempted for jury duty, this bill exempts from jury duty a mother who is breast-feeding a child; a parent of child who has not attained 10 years of age if the court determines that service of the parent as a juror would jeopardize the safety of the child; and a caretaker of an elderly or disabled person if that person requires full-time attention from the caretaker.