

JAN 15 2025

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO JURY DUTY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that advance practice
2 registered nurses (APRNs) in the State have full practice
3 authority and provide primary and specialist care to the
4 elderly, disabled, and all of the people in the State. The
5 legislature also finds that the care provided by APRNs is
6 comparable in outcomes to those of their physician colleagues.
7 With advances in legislation to improve access to care by APRNs,
8 many have been able to establish freestanding practices under
9 their own professional corporations similar to those of
10 physicians. According to section 612-6, Hawaii Revised
11 Statutes, of all healthcare professionals, only physicians and
12 dentists are exempt from serving jury duty. The legislature
13 finds that removing an APRN from their daily practice to serve
14 on a jury deprives their patients of needed healthcare and can
15 also be a financial hardship to the APRN who owns their own
16 practice and must pay for their overhead, whether or not they
17 are on site at the practice. The legislature also finds that a



1 jury duty exemption does not preclude a person from jury duty
2 service if they choose to serve.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to allow advance
4 practice registered nurses to claim exemption from service as a
5 juror.

6 SECTION 2. Section 612-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 "**§612-6 Exempt when.** A person may claim exemption from
9 service as a juror if the person is:

- 10 (1) An elected official while the legislature is in
11 session, or a judge of the United States, State, or
12 county;
- 13 (2) An actively practicing physician, advanced practice
14 registered nurse, or dentist;
- 15 (3) A member of the armed forces or militia when on active
16 service and deployed out-of-state;
- 17 (4) An active member of a police or fire department;
- 18 (5) A person who has served as a juror, either in a court
19 of this State or the United States District Court for
20 the District of Hawaii, within one year preceding the
21 time of filling out the juror qualification form;



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- 1 (6) An active member of an emergency medical services
- 2 agency;
- 3 (7) A person living more than seventy miles from the court
- 4 for which jury service is required;
- 5 (8) A person eighty years of age or older; or
- 6 (9) A woman who is breastfeeding a child or expressing
- 7 breast milk for a period of two years from the birth
- 8 of the child.

9 For purposes of this section, "emergency medical services
10 agency" means any government agency, private agency, or company
11 that provides ambulance services, emergency medical services, or
12 disaster medical services."

13 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

15

INTRODUCED BY: *Spannie R. Frouse*



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Report Title:

Jury Duty; Advance Practice Registered Nurses; Exemption

Description:

Allows an advance practice registered nurse to claim exemption from service as a juror.

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