

By: Isett

H.B. No. 58

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to exempting certain sole proprietors from jury duty.

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

SECTION 1. Section 62.106(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person qualified to serve as a petit juror may establish an exemption from jury service if the person:

(1) is over 70 years of age;

(2) has legal custody of a child younger than 10 years of age and the person's service on the jury requires leaving the child without adequate supervision;

(3) is a student of a public or private secondary school;

(4) is a person enrolled and in actual attendance at an institution of higher education;

(5) is an officer or an employee of the senate, the house of representatives, or any department, commission, board, office, or other agency in the legislative branch of state government;

(6) is summoned for service in a county with a population of at least 200,000, unless that county uses a jury plan under Section 62.011 and the period authorized under Section 62.011(b)(5) exceeds two years, and the person has served as a petit juror in the county during the 24-month period preceding the date

1 the person is to appear for jury service;

2 (7) is the primary caretaker of a person who is an
3 invalid unable to care for himself;

4 (8) except as provided by Subsection (b), is summoned
5 for service in a county with a population of at least 250,000 and
6 the person has served as a petit juror in the county during the
7 three-year period preceding the date the person is to appear for
8 jury service; ~~[or]~~

9 (9) is a member of the United States military forces
10 serving on active duty and deployed to a location away from the
11 person's home station and out of the person's county of residence;
12 or

13 (10) is the sole proprietor of a full-time business if
14 the business:

15 (A) does not have any employees; and

16 (B) is not operated primarily over the Internet.

17 SECTION 2. This Act applies only to a person summoned for
18 jury duty on or after the effective date of this Act. A person
19 summoned for jury duty before the effective date of this Act is
20 governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date
21 of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that
22 purpose.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.