

By: Phelan

H.B. No. 3913

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the affidavit required to be exempt from jury service due to a physical or mental impairment.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 62.109(b) and (f), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) A person requesting an exemption under this section must submit to the court an affidavit stating the person's name and address and the reason for and the duration of the requested exemption. A person requesting an exemption due to a physical or mental impairment must attach to the affidavit a statement from a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse as defined by Section 301.152, Occupations Code. The affidavit and physician's or registered nurse's statement may be submitted to the court at the time the person is summoned for jury service or at any other time.

(f) An affidavit accompanying a request for an exemption from jury service because of a physical or mental impairment may be presented by the affiant or by a friend or relative of the affiant. The affidavit must state:

(1) the name and address of the physician or advanced practice registered nurse whose statement accompanies the affidavit;

(2) whether the request is for a permanent or temporary exemption;

1 (3) the period of time for which a temporary exemption
2 is requested; and

3 (4) that as a direct result of the physical or mental
4 impairment it is impossible or very difficult for the affiant to
5 serve on a jury.

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.