

1 AN ACT relating to jury service for caregivers.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 29A.100 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) Upon the request of a prospective juror prior to assignment to a trial court, the Chief
5 Circuit Judge, or after the juror's assignment to a trial court, the trial judge may
6 excuse such juror upon a showing of undue hardship, extreme inconvenience, or
7 public necessity. On the day on which the prospective jurors are summonsed to
8 appear, any person not previously excused who desires to be excused shall be heard.
- 9 (2) The Chief Circuit Judge may designate and authorize one (1) or more judges of the
10 court, the court's clerk, a deputy clerk, the court's administrator, or a deputy court
11 administrator to excuse a juror from service for a period not to exceed ten (10) days
12 or to postpone jury service for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months. The
13 reasons for excuse or postponement shall be entered in the space provided on the
14 juror qualification form.
- 15 (3) In his or her discretion the judge may excuse a juror from service entirely, reduce
16 the number of days of service, or may postpone the juror's service temporarily for a
17 period of time not to exceed, however, twenty-four (24) months. Whenever possible
18 the judge shall favor temporary postponement of service or reduced service over
19 permanent excuse. When excusing a juror, the judge shall record the juror's name,
20 as provided in KRS 29A.080, and the reasons for granting the excuse.
- 21 (4) The judge shall excuse a mother who is breastfeeding a child or expressing
22 breastmilk from jury service until such time as the child is old enough that the
23 mother is no longer breastfeeding the child.
- 24 **(5) *The judge shall excuse a prospective juror when the prospective juror has a***
25 ***personal obligation to provide actual and necessary care to another, including***
26 ***sick, aged, disabled, or infirm dependents, or a child who requires the prospective***
27 ***juror's personal care and attention, and no comparable substitute care is either***

1 available or practical without imposing an undue economic hardship on the
2 prospective juror or person for which care is provided. The prospective juror may
3 be required to furnish verification or a method of verification regarding the
4 required care the prospective juror is required to provide.