

**Juror Eligibility Amendments**

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Melissa G. Ballard**

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**LONG TITLE****General Description:**

This bill addresses juror eligibility.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- addresses juror eligibility of an individual who has been convicted of a felony; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**78B-1-105**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 3

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **78B-1-105** is amended to read:

**78B-1-105 . Jurors -- Competency to serve -- Individuals not competent to serve as jurors -- Court to determine disqualification.**

(1) ~~[A person]~~ An individual is competent to serve as a juror if the ~~[person]~~ individual is:

- (a) a citizen of the United States;
- (b) 18 years ~~[of age]~~ old or older;
- (c) a resident of the county; and
- (d) able to read, speak, and understand the English language.

~~[(2) A person who has been convicted of a felony which has not been expunged is not competent to serve as a juror.]~~

(2) An individual who has been convicted of a felony in a state or federal court of the United States is not competent to serve as a juror unless:

- (a) the felony conviction has been expunged or reduced to a misdemeanor; or

- (b)(i) at least 10 years have passed after the date of the individual's felony conviction or incarceration, whichever is later;
- (ii) the individual is not required, or is no longer required, to register as a sex offender, a kidnap offender, or a child abuse offender in accordance with Title 77, Chapter 41, Sex, Kidnap, and Child Abuse Offender Registry;
- (iii) the individual has completed any probation related to the felony conviction;
- (iv) the individual has completed any term of incarceration related to the felony conviction; and
- (v) the individual has completed any parole related to the felony conviction.

(3) The court, on [its] the court's own initiative or when requested by a prospective juror, shall determine whether the prospective juror is disqualified from jury service.

(4) The court shall base [its] the court's decision on:

- (a) information provided on the juror qualification form;
- (b) an interview with the prospective juror; or
- (c) other competent evidence.

[(4)] (5) The clerk shall enter the court's determination in the records of the court.

## Section 2. **Effective Date.**

This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.