

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 24, 2004

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1978

Introduced by Assembly Member Haynes

February 12, 2004

An act to amend Section 204 of the Code of Civil Procedure, relating to jurors.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1978, as amended, Haynes. Jurors: eligibility.

Existing law specifies that no eligible person may be excused from jury service except for undue hardship, as defined by the Judicial Council.

This bill would further ~~exempt mothers with custody of minor children under 6 years of age~~ *provide that an eligible person who is a single parent or guardian and has sole custody of a minor child under 6 years of age or is a parent in a 2-parent household who remains at home to care for a minor child under 6 years of age may be excused from jury service.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 204 of the Code of Civil Procedure is
2 amended to read:
3 204. (a) No eligible person shall be exempt from service as
4 a trial juror by reason of occupation, race, color, religion, sex,

1 national origin, economic status, or sexual orientation, or for any
2 other reason. No person shall be excused from service as a trial
3 juror except as specified in subdivision (b) or (c).

4 (b) An eligible person may be excused from jury service only
5 for undue hardship, upon themselves or upon the public, as defined
6 by the Judicial Council.

7 ~~(c) An eligible woman shall be excused from jury service if she
8 is a mother having custody of a minor child under six years of age.~~

9 (c) *An eligible person may be excused from jury service if that
10 person is a single parent or guardian who has sole custody of a
11 minor child under six years of age or a parent in a two-parent
12 household who remains at home to care for a minor child under six
13 years of age.*

