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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS FROM JURY DUTY.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that due to the critical  
2 roles that physicians, members of the armed forces, police,  
3 firefighters, and emergency medical service members play in  
4 ensuring the safety of the public welfare in emergency  
5 situations, those individuals are currently exempt from jury  
6 duty pursuant to section 612-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The  
7 legislature also finds that, pursuant to chapter 127A, Hawaii  
8 Revised Statutes, the Hawaii emergency management agency and  
9 county emergency management agencies serve essential, critical,  
10 and unique roles and functions to provide emergency management  
11 for the State. The legislature therefore finds that it is  
12 important that active members of those agencies face no  
13 hindrances in serving in their roles. However, under existing  
14 law, active members of emergency management agencies are not  
15 exempt from jury duty.

16           The purpose of this Act is to facilitate the implementation  
17 of the policy and purpose of chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised



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1 Statutes, by exempting active members of the Hawaii emergency  
2 management agency and county emergency management agencies from  
3 jury duty.

4 SECTION 2. Section 612-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 "**§612-6 Exempt when.** (a) A person may claim exemption  
7 from service as a juror if the person is:

- 8 (1) An elected official while the legislature is in  
9 session, or a judge of the United States, State, or  
10 county;
- 11 (2) An actively practicing physician or dentist;
- 12 (3) A member of the armed forces or militia when on active  
13 service and deployed out-of-state;
- 14 (4) An active member of a police or fire department;
- 15 (5) A person who has served as a juror, either in a court  
16 of this State or the United States District Court for  
17 the District of Hawaii, within one year preceding the  
18 time of filling out the juror qualification form;
- 19 (6) An active member of an emergency medical services  
20 agency;



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1 (7) A person living more than seventy miles from the court  
2 for which jury service is required;

3 (8) A person eighty years of age or older; [~~or~~]

4 (9) A woman who is breastfeeding a child or expressing  
5 breast milk for a period of two years from the birth  
6 of the child[~~-~~];

7 (10) An active member of the Hawaii emergency management  
8 agency; or

9 (11) An active member of a county emergency management  
10 agency established pursuant to section 127A-5.

11 (b) For purposes of this section, "emergency medical  
12 services agency" means any government agency, private agency, or  
13 company that provides ambulance services, emergency medical  
14 services, or disaster medical services."

15 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
16 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.

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INTRODUCED BY:   
JAN 22 2021



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**Report Title:**

Jury Duty; Exemptions; Emergency Management

**Description:**

Exempts active members of the Hawaii emergency management agency and county emergency management agencies from jury duty.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

