SYNOPSIS
Eliminates conviction of indictable offense as automatic disqualifier for jury service under certain circumstances.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
As reported by the Assembly Judiciary Committee on December 4, 2023, with amendments.
AN ACT permitting persons with certain prior convictions to qualify for jury service, and amending N.J.S.2B:20-1.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. N.J.S.2B:20-1 is amended to read as follows:

2B:20-1. Qualifications of jurors.

Every person summoned as a juror \( \text{shall} \):

a. \( \text{shall} \) be 18 years of age or older;

b. \( \text{shall} \) be able to read and understand the English language;

c. \( \text{shall} \) be a citizen of the United States;

d. \( \text{shall} \) be a resident of the county in which the person is summoned;

e. \text{shall not have been convicted of any indictable offense under the laws of this State, another state, or the United States;}

\( \text{Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. } \) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) not have been convicted of murder pursuant to N.J.S.2C:11-3 or aggravated sexual assault pursuant to subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:14-2.1

f. \( \text{shall} \) not be serving a sentence of incarceration for any indictable offense under the laws of this State, another state, or the United States; and

g. \( \text{shall} \) not have any mental or physical disability which will prevent the person from properly serving as a juror.

(cf: P.L.1997, c.127, s.1)

2. On the effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill), each juror source list compiled in accordance with N.J.S.2B:20-2 that is being used to select eligible persons for jury service shall be updated, to account for the change in juror qualifications established by that act, no later than the first day of the \( \text{fourth} \) month next following enactment of that act.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets \( \text{thus} \) in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined \( \text{thus} \) is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

\( ^{1} \)Assembly AJU committee amendments adopted December 4, 2023.