

HOUSE No. 1545

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Elizabeth A. Poirier

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to jury disqualifications.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>

HOUSE No. 1545

By Mrs. Poirier of North Attleborough, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1545) of Elizabeth A. Poirier, Kimberly N. Ferguson and Susan Williams Gifford that jury duty be made optional for legally blind persons. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act relative to jury disqualifications.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 4 of chapter 234A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3 9. Such person is legally blind and indicates on the juror confirmation form an election
4 not to perform juror service. For purposes of this section “legally blind” shall mean a condition
5 associated with a finding by a physician or optometrist that a person has a visual acuity of 20/200
6 or less with correction in the better eye, or has a peripheral visual field of 10 degrees radius or
7 less regardless of visual acuity.