

# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Office of Research and Drafting Legislative Budget Office

S.B. 303 134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

# **Bill Analysis**

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Thomas

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#### SUMMARY

 Requires the commissioners of jurors for each county's court of common pleas to include names of eligible persons submitted by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in the county's jury source list, unless the court orders otherwise.

### **DETAILED ANALYSIS**

The bill requires the commissioners of jurors for each county's court of common pleas to include names of eligible persons provided by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) in the county's jury source list, unless the court orders otherwise.

Under existing law, the commissioners may, but are not required to, include names from the BMV in the jury source list. Continuing law also requires the jury source list to include names from the county's voter registration records, unless the court orders otherwise. A person must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18, and a resident of the county in order to be called for jury service. A prospective juror is not required to be registered to vote, but cannot serve if the person would be ineligible to vote (for example, if a court has ruled the person incompetent for that purpose).<sup>1</sup>

The practical effect of the bill is to include more persons on the jury source list in counties that currently use only voter registration records to compile their lists. According to a 2020 survey by the Ohio Jury Management Association, about 80% of Ohio courts use only voter registration records.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> R.C. 2313.06. See also R.C. 2313.17(A), not in the bill.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ohio Jury Management Association, <u>2020 Ohio Jury Management Survey (DOC)</u> and <u>Combined Jury</u> <u>Source Lists (PDF)</u>, available in the "Resources" section of the Association's website: <u>ohiojury.org</u>.

## HISTORY

| Action     | Date     |
|------------|----------|
| Introduced | 03-01-22 |
|            |          |

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