

House Bill 188 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Rynders of the 152nd, Manning of the 32nd, Walker of the 107th, Ralston of the 7th, Willard of the 49th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 15-12-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 exemptions from jury duty, so as to provide for an exemption for a primary caregiver of a
3 person aged six or older with physical or cognitive limitations; to repeal conflicting laws; and
4 for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 15-12-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to exemptions
8 from jury duty, is amended in subsection (a) by adding a new paragraph to read as follows:
9 "(5) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of this subsection, any person who is the primary
10 unpaid caregiver for a person over the age of six; who executes an affidavit on a form
11 provided by the court stating that such primary caregiver is responsible for the care of a
12 person with such physical or cognitive limitations that he or she is unable to care for
13 himself or herself and cannot be left unattended and that the primary caregiver has no
14 reasonably available alternative to provide for the care; and who requests to be excused
15 or deferred shall be excused or deferred from jury duty. Any person seeking the
16 exemption shall furnish to the court, in addition to the aforementioned affidavit, a
17 statement of a physician, or other medical provider, supporting the affidavit's statements
18 related to the medical condition of the person with physical or cognitive limitations. It
19 shall be the duty of the court to provide affidavits for the purpose of this paragraph."

20 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

21 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.