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## SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair  
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

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### AB 1359 (Ahrens) - Jury service exemptions

**Version:** July 1, 2026

**Urgency:** No

**Hearing Date:** August 13, 2026

**Policy Vote:** JUD. 11 - 0

**Mandate:** No

**Consultant:** Bob Franzoia

**Bill Summary:** AB 1359 would authorize a person 80 years of age or older to seek a permanent excuse from jury duty without providing a supporting letter, memorandum, or note from a treating health care provider.

### \*\*\*\*\* ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE \*\*\*\*\*

The following information is revised to reflect amendments  
adopted by the committee on August 13, 2026

**Fiscal Impact:** One-time significant costs to the Judicial Council (JC) for jury management system upgrades; minor, absorbable costs to create model summons that reflect the change in jury exemption policy.

Unknown, potentially moderate costs associated with mailing additional juror summons as responses to the exempted individuals are received. Unknown, potentially significant reductions in staff time associated with processing fewer excusal requests on a case-by-case basis. Courts do not have juror demographic data in their jury management systems and the potential impact on juror rolls is unknown.

Minor, absorbable costs to adopt or revise a rule of court. Generally, one year is needed to complete the approval process and provide a public comment period (General Fund).

### Author Amendments:

- Specify that individuals must request a permanent exemption as a result of a medical impairment and must submit a written letter to the jury commissioner detailing their impairment
- Add an operative date of January 1, 2028.

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