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## DIGEST

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HB 65 Engrossed

2019 Regular Session

James

**Abstract:** Authorizes certain persons under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony to serve on a jury in civil and criminal cases.

Present law provides for the following qualifications that a person shall meet in order to serve as a juror in civil and criminal cases:

- (1) Be a citizen of the United States and of this state who has resided within the parish in which he is to serve as a juror for at least one year immediately preceding his jury service.
- (2) Be at least 18 years of age.
- (3) Be able to read, write, and speak the English language and be possessed of sufficient knowledge of the English language.
- (4) Not be under interdiction or incapable of serving as a juror because of a mental or physical infirmity, provided that no person shall be deemed incompetent solely because of the loss of hearing in any degree.
- (5) Not be under indictment for a felony nor have been convicted of a felony for which he has not been pardoned by the governor.

Proposed law amends present law (paragraph (5) above) to provide that in order to qualify to serve as a juror, a person shall not be under an indictment, incarcerated under an order of imprisonment, or on probation or parole for a felony offense within the five-year period immediately preceding the person's jury service.

Proposed law retains all other present law qualifications for jurors.

(Amends C.Cr.P. Art. 401(A)(intro. para.) and (5))

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Amend proposed law to prohibit a person from qualifying to serve on a jury if the person

was under indictment, incarcerated under an order of imprisonment, or on probation or parole for a felony offense within the five-year period immediately preceding the person's jury service.