

1 AN ACT concerning courts.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Jury Act is amended by changing Section 20  
5 as follows:

6 (705 ILCS 305/20) (from Ch. 78, par. 20)

7 Sec. 20. (a) It shall be the duty of the clerk of the court  
8 at the commencement of each week at which any cause is to be  
9 tried by a jury to write the name of each petit juror summoned  
10 and retained for that week on a separate ticket, and put the  
11 whole into a box or other place for safekeeping; and as often  
12 as it shall be necessary to impanel a jury, the clerk, sheriff  
13 or coroner shall, in the presence of the court, draw by chance  
14 12 names (or from 14 up to and including 16 where alternate  
15 jurors are required) out of such box or other place, which  
16 shall designate the persons to be sworn on the jury, and in the  
17 same manner for the second jury, in their turn, as the court  
18 may order and direct. The attorney for any party litigant in  
19 any cause assigned to jury trial shall have the right to be  
20 present in person at the time and place when the random  
21 selection of jurors for trial of said cause is drawn by lot to  
22 be assigned to the trial judge for voir dire examination; a  
23 party litigant whose attorney is present at the selection

1 process waives any objection to the selection procedure unless  
2 the same is asserted prior to the time any prospective juror is  
3 called for voir dire examination.

4 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a),  
5 names of jurors may be randomly drawn by computer.

6 (c) The changes made to this Section by this amendatory  
7 Act of the 104th General Assembly apply to actions commenced  
8 or pending on or after January 1, 2026.

9 (Source: P.A. 86-1053.)

10 Section 10. The Code of Civil Procedure is amended by  
11 changing Section 2-1106 as follows:

12 (735 ILCS 5/2-1106) (from Ch. 110, par. 2-1106)

13 Sec. 2-1106. Peremptory challenges - Alternate jurors. (a)  
14 Each side shall be entitled to 5 peremptory challenges. If  
15 there is more than one party on any side, the court may allow  
16 each side additional peremptory challenges, not to exceed 3,  
17 on account of each additional party on the side having the  
18 greatest number of parties. Each side shall be allowed an  
19 equal number of peremptory challenges. If the parties on a  
20 side are unable to agree upon the allocation of peremptory  
21 challenges among themselves, the allocation shall be  
22 determined by the court.

23 (b) The court may direct that up to and including 4 ~~1 or 2~~  
24 jurors in addition to the regular panel be impanelled to serve

1 as alternate jurors. Alternate jurors, in the sequence in  
2 which they are ordered into the jury box, shall replace jurors  
3 who, prior to the time the jury retires to consider its  
4 verdict, become unable to perform their duties. Alternate  
5 jurors shall be drawn in the same manner, have the same  
6 qualifications, be subject to the same examination and  
7 challenges, take the same oath, and have the same functions,  
8 powers, facilities, and privileges as the principal jurors. An  
9 alternate juror who does not replace a principal juror shall  
10 be discharged at the time the jury retires to consider its  
11 verdict. If alternate jurors are called each side shall be  
12 allowed one additional peremptory challenge, regardless of the  
13 number of alternate jurors called. The additional peremptory  
14 challenge may be used only against an alternate juror, but any  
15 unexercised peremptory challenges may be used against an  
16 alternate juror.

17 (c) The changes made to this Section by this amendatory  
18 Act of the 104th General Assembly apply to actions commenced  
19 or pending on or after January 1, 2026.

20 (Source: P.A. 83-707.)