

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Iowa Legislature  
**From:** Iowa Judicial Branch  
**Re:** Jury Bill  
**Date:** 11/30/2020

Currently, the primary jury source lists are the voter registration list, the motor vehicle operators list, and nonoperators identification list. These source lists present the following limitations:

- 1.) Numerous Iowans are not registered to vote and do not have a driver's license or nonoperators identification; and
- 2.) Those who are registered to vote and/or have a driver's license or nonoperators identification often do not update their address in those systems.

This bill updates Chapters 422 and 607A of the Iowa Code to expand the sources from which jury lists can be compiled. Although Code chapter 607A requires state government officials to furnish lists necessary for the formulation of jury source lists, Code chapter 422 forbids tax information from being divulged for use in a matter unrelated to tax administration.

This bill will remove ambiguities and inconsistencies from the Code and will improve the accuracy of Iowa's jury source lists. Currently, the Individual Income, Corporate, and Franchise Taxes chapter of the Code (422) forbids a tax return, return information, or investigative or audit information from being divulged to any person or entity, other than the taxpayer, the department of revenue, or internal revenue service, for use in a matter unrelated to tax administration. This prohibition is inconsistent with the Juries chapter of the Code (607A), which states that state government officials shall furnish lists necessary for the formulation of jury source lists.

The bill provides that information provided by the department of revenue shall not include financial information of taxpayers and shall be limited to information fields that are currently provided by the voter registration list and motor vehicle operators list and nonoperators identification list, specifically:

- Name;
- Date of birth;
- Last four digits of social security number; and
- Address.

Additionally, this bill protects prospective juror street addresses and day and month of birth by deeming them confidential and not subject to disclosure without an order of the court. Currently, the contact information and date of birth of jurors is public information. Prospective jurors have reported litigants showing up at their homes in attempt to discuss the pending case. This bill will help to shield prospective jurors from inappropriate contacts and harassment.