LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 192

Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28.

Read first time January 10, 2017

Committee: Judiciary

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to juries; to amend sections 25-412.04, 2 25-1107.01, 25-1108, 25-1121, 25-1313, 25-1601, 25-1601.03, 25-1602, 3 25-1603, 25-1606, 25-1607, 25-1611, 25-1612, 25-1625, 25-1626, 4 25-1627, 25-1628, 25-1629, 25-1629.01, 25-1629.02, 25-1631, 25-1632.01, 25-1633, 25-1634, 25-1634.01, 5 25-1631.03, 25-1632, 6 25-1634.02, 25-1635, 25-1636, 25-1637, 25-1639, 25-1640, 25-1641, 7 25-2705, 28-916, 29-1201, 29-2003, 29-2011, 29-2017, 29-2023, and 33-138, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to name the Jury 8 9 Selection Act; to define terms; to change provisions relating to juror qualifications and exemptions and excuses from jury service; 10 to change terminology relating to juries; to change provisions 11 12 relating to jury lists and summoning juries, jury commissioners, 13 initial and subsequent jury panels, excess jurors, special jury 14 panels in criminal cases, extra jurors, tales jurors, grand juries, 15 jurors' notes, jurors viewing property or a place material to litigation, demands for jury trials, and compensation for jurors; to 16 provide duties for clerk magistrates; to change terminology relating 17 18 to verdicts and court proceedings; to harmonize provisions; to 19 repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal sections 25-1609, 25-1626.02, 25-1627.01, 25-1629.03, 25-1629.04, 25-1630, 20 21 25-1633.01, 25-1634.03, 25-1642, and 25-1643, Reissue Revised 22 Statutes of Nebraska.
- 23 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Sections 1 to 32 of this act shall be known and may be

- 2 <u>cited as the Jury Selection Act.</u>
- 3 Sec. 2. Section 25-1601.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 4 amended to read:
- 5 $\frac{25-1601.03}{2}$ The Legislature hereby declares that it is the intent and
- 6 purpose of the Jury Selection Act this section and sections 25-1601,
- 7 25-1603, 25-1609, 25-1611, 25-1625, 25-1627, 25-1627.01, 25-1629,
- 8 25-1629.01 to 25-1629.04, 25-1631.03, 25-1637, 25-1639, and 25-1640 to
- 9 create a jury system which will ensure insure that:
- 10 (1) All persons selected for jury service are selected at random
- 11 from a fair cross section of the population of the area served by the
- 12 court;
- 13 (2) All qualified citizens have the opportunity to be considered for
- 14 jury service;
- 15 (3) All qualified citizens fulfill their obligation to serve as
- 16 jurors when summoned for that purpose; and
- 17 (4) No citizen is excluded from jury service in this state as a
- 18 result of discrimination based upon race, color, religion, sex, national
- 19 origin, or economic status.
- Sec. 3. <u>For purposes of the Jury Selection Act:</u>
- 21 (1) Electronic jury selection process means a process in which
- 22 individuals are randomly selected to serve on a grand jury or petit jury
- 23 through electronic means and for which the presence of a district court
- 24 <u>judge or other designated official is not required;</u>
- 25 (2) Grand jury means a body of people who are chosen to sit
- 26 permanently for at least a month and up to a year and who, in ex parte
- 27 proceedings, decide whether to issue indictments in criminal cases;
- 28 (3) Jury commissioner means the person designated in section 4 of
- 29 this act;
- 30 (4) Jury panel means the persons summoned to serve as petit or grand
- 31 jurors for a two-week period or such other period of a jury term as

- 1 determined by the judge or judges;
- 2 (5) Jury term means a month, calendar quarter, year, or other period
- 3 of time as determined by the judge or judges during which grand or petit
- 4 jurors are selected for service from a master list. A jury term shall not
- 5 <u>extend beyond the time by which a new master list is required to be</u>
- 6 prepared pursuant to section 11 of this act;
- 7 (6) Manual jury selection process means a process in which
- 8 <u>individuals are randomly selected to serve on a grand jury or petit jury</u>
- 9 by drawing names from a wheel or box while in the presence of a district
- 10 court judge or other official designated by the judge;
- 11 (7) Master list means the list of names selected using the key
- 12 number pursuant to section 11 of this act;
- 13 <u>(8) One-step qualifying and summoning system means a process for</u>
- 14 <u>selecting and summoning petit or grand jurors in which a juror</u>
- 15 qualification form and summons are sent to a potential juror at the same
- 16 time;
- 17 <u>(9) Petit juror means a juror who may be summoned for service at a</u>
- 18 jury trial;
- 19 (10) Revised jury pool means the list or lists of names derived by
- 20 <u>eliminating nonqualified persons from the master list pursuant to section</u>
- 21 12 of this act and from which petit and grand jurors are drawn;
- 22 (11) Tales juror means a person selected from among the bystanders
- 23 in court or the people of the county to serve as a juror when the
- 24 original jury panel has become deficient in number; and
- 25 (12) Two-step qualifying and summoning system means a process for
- 26 <u>selecting and summoning petit or grand jurors in which a juror</u>
- 27 qualification form is sent to a potential juror and, if the juror is
- 28 qualified and drawn for a jury panel, a summons is sent.
- 29 Sec. 4. Section 25-1625, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 30 amended to read:
- 31 $\frac{25-1625}{}$ (1) In each county of the State of Nebraska there shall be a

- 1 jury commissioner.
- 2 (2) In counties having a population of not more than seventy-five
- 3 thousand inhabitants, the clerk of the district court shall be jury
- 4 commissioner ex officio.
- 5 (3) In counties having a population of more than seventy-five
- 6 thousand, and not more than two hundred thousand inhabitants, the jury
- 7 commissioner shall be a separate office in the county government or the
- 8 duties may be performed, when authorized by the judges of the district
- 9 court within such counties, by the election commissioner. The jury
- 10 commissioner shall receive an annual salary of not less than <u>one thousand</u>
- 11 two twelve hundred dollars.
- 12 (4) In counties having a population in excess of two hundred
- 13 thousand inhabitants, the judges of the district court within such
- 14 counties shall determine whether the clerk of the district court will
- 15 perform the duties of jury commissioner without additional compensation
- or the election commissioner will be jury commissioner ex officio. If the
- 17 jury commissioner is to receive a salary, the amount of the salary shall
- 18 be fixed by the district judges in an amount not to exceed three thousand
- 19 dollars per annum.
- 20 (5) In all counties the necessary expenses incurred in the
- 21 performance of the duties of jury commissioner shall be paid by the
- 22 county board of the county out of the general fund, upon proper claims
- 23 approved by one of the district judges in the judicial district and duly
- 24 filed with the county board.
- 25 (6) In all counties the jury commissioner shall prepare and file the
- 26 annual inventory statement with the county board of the county of all
- 27 county personal property in his or her custody or possession, as provided
- 28 in sections 23-346 to 23-350.
- 29 <u>(7) This section shall be so interpreted as to effectuate its</u>
- 30 general purpose, to provide, in the public interest, adequate
- 31 compensation for the jury commissioner and to permit a change in such

- 1 salary as soon as the change may become operative under the Constitution
- 2 <u>of Nebraska.</u>
- 3 Sec. 5. Section 25-1626, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 4 amended to read:
- 5 25-1626 (1) In counties of over two hundred thousand inhabitants,
- 6 the salary of the jury commissioner shall be fixed by the district
- 7 judges, but in no event shall exceed three thousand dollars per annum.
- 8 Said salary shall be payable by warrants drawn on the general fund of the
- 9 county. A majority of the judges of the district court may by order
- 10 direct the clerk of the court to furnish such assistance to the jury
- 11 commissioner as <u>the judges</u> they may find necessary.
- 12 (2) The jury commissioner shall appoint a deputy jury commissioner
- 13 from the regular employees of his <u>or her</u>office who shall serve ex
- 14 officio and who shall hold office during the pleasure of the jury
- 15 commissioner. The deputy jury commissioner shall be approved by the judge
- 16 or judges of the district court before taking office. The deputy jury
- 17 commissioner, during the absence of the jury commissioner from the county
- 18 or during the sickness or disability of the jury commissioner, with the
- 19 consent of such judge or judges, may perform any or all of the duties of
- 20 the jury commissioner.
- 21 (3) If there are no regular employees of the office of jury
- 22 commissioner, he or she may appoint some other county officer or employee
- 23 thereof as deputy jury commissioner.
- 24 Sec. 6. Section 25-1603, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 25 amended to read:
- 26 25-1603 In each of the <u>county and district courts</u> counties of this
- 27 state, wherein a district court is appointed or directed to be held, the
- 28 lists of grand and petit jurors shall be made up and jurors selected for
- 29 jury duty in the manner prescribed in the Jury Selection Act sections
- 30 25-1625 to 25-1642.
- 31 Sec. 7. Section 25-1601, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

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1 amended to read:

25-1601 (1) All citizens of the United States residing in any of the 2 counties of this state who are over the age of nineteen years, able to 3 4 read, speak, and understand the English language, and free from all 5 disqualifications set forth under this section and from all other legal exceptions are <u>qualified</u> and shall be competent persons to serve on all 6 7 grand and petit juries in their respective counties. Persons disqualified to serve as either grand or petit jurors are: (a) Judges of any court, 8 9 (b) clerks of the Supreme or district courts, (c) sheriffs, (d) jailers, 10 (e) persons, or the spouses wife or husband of any such persons person, who are parties to suits pending in the district court of the county of 11 his, her, or their then residence for trial to at that jury panel, (f) 12 13 persons who have been convicted of a felony criminal offense punishable by imprisonment in a Department of Correctional Services adult 14 correctional facility, when such conviction has not been set aside or a 15 16 pardon issued, and (g) persons who are subject to liability for the 17 commission of any offense which by special provision of law disqualifies does and shall disqualify them. Spouses Persons who are husband and wife 18 19 shall not serve be summoned as jurors on the same panel. Persons who are incapable, by reason of physical or mental disability, of rendering 20 satisfactory jury service shall not be qualified to serve on a jury, but 21 22 a person claiming this disqualification shall may be required to submit a 23 physician's certificate as to the disability and the certifying physician 24 is subject to inquiry by the court at its discretion. A nursing mother 25 who requests to be excused shall be excused from jury service until she is no longer nursing her child, but the mother shall may be required to 26 submit a physician's certificate in support of her request. 27

(2) The district court or any judge thereof may exercise the power of excusing any grand or petit juror or any person summoned for grand or petit jury service upon a showing of undue hardship, extreme inconvenience, or public necessity for such period as the court deems

- 1 necessary. At the conclusion of such period the person shall reappear for
- 2 jury service in accordance with the court's direction. All excuses and
- 3 the grounds for such excuses shall be entered upon the record of the
- 4 court and shall be considered as a public record. In districts having
- 5 more than one judge of the district court, the court may by rule or order
- 6 assign or delegate to the presiding judge or any one or more judges the
- 7 sole authority to grant such excuses.
- 8 (3) No qualified <u>potential</u> <u>prospective</u> juror is exempt from jury
- 9 service, except that any person sixty-five years of age or older who
- 10 makes a shall make such request to be exempt to the court at the time the
- 11 juror qualification form is filed with the jury commissioner or who makes
- 12 <u>such a request in writing after being qualified and summoned</u> shall be
- 13 exempt from serving on grand and petit juries.
- 14 (4) A nursing mother shall be excused from jury service until she is
- 15 no longer nursing her child by making such request to the court at the
- 16 time the juror qualification form is filed with the jury commissioner and
- 17 including with the request a physician's certificate in support of her
- 18 request. The jury commissioner shall mail the mother a notification form
- 19 to be completed and returned to the jury commissioner by the mother when
- 20 she is no longer nursing the child.
- 21 Sec. 8. Section 25-1602, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 22 amended to read:
- 23 $\frac{25-1602}{}$ On the trial of any suit in which a county or any other
- 24 municipal corporation is a party, the inhabitants and taxpayers of such
- 25 county or municipal corporation shall be qualified to serve as competent
- 26 jurors if otherwise competent and qualified according to law.
- Sec. 9. Section 25-1636, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 28 amended to read:
- 29 25-1636 (1) It shall be ground for challenge for cause that any
- 30 potential proposed juror: (a) Does not possess the qualifications of a
- 31 juror as set forth in section 7 of this act or is excluded by the terms

- 1 of section 7 of this act; (b) has requested or solicited any officer of
- 2 the court or officer charged in any manner with the duty of selecting the
- 3 jury to place such juror upon the jury panel; or (c) otherwise lacks any
- 4 of the qualifications provided by law.
- 5 (2) It shall not be a ground for challenge for cause of challenge
- 6 that a potential juror has read in the newspapers an account of the
- 7 commission of a crime with which a <u>defendant prisoner</u> is charged, if such
- 8 juror states under shall state on oath that it is the belief of said
- 9 person that he or she can render an impartial verdict according to the
- 10 law and the evidence; and the court is shall be satisfied as to the truth
- 11 of such statement. In ; Provided, that in the trial of any criminal
- 12 cause, the fact that a person called as a juror has formed an opinion
- 13 based upon rumor or newspaper statements, and as to the truth of which
- 14 the person said juror has formed no opinion, shall not disqualify the
- 15 said person to serve as a juror on such cause, if the person states under
- 16 said juror shall upon oath state that it is the belief of said person
- 17 that he or she can fully and impartially render a verdict in accordance
- 18 with the law and the evidence τ and the court is shall be satisfied as to
- 19 the truth of such statement.
- 20 Sec. 10. Section 25-1627, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 21 amended to read:
- 22 25-1627 (1) The jury commissioner—shall in the presence of one of
- 23 the judges of the district court of the county, at such times as may be
- 24 necessary τ or as he <u>or she</u> may be ordered to do so by the district judge,
- 25 <u>shall draw, by an electronic or manual process, select</u> a number to be
- 26 known as a key number. The <u>drawing</u> selecting of a key number shall be
- 27 done in a manner which will <u>ensure</u> insure that the number <u>drawn</u> selected
- 28 is the result of chance. The key number shall be drawn selected from
- 29 among the numbers one to ten. Except as otherwise provided in this
- 30 <u>section</u>, only one key number need be drawn.
- 31 (2) In a county with a population of less than three thousand

- 1 inhabitants, the jury commissioner shall draw two key numbers or such
- 2 <u>larger number of key numbers as the district judge or judges may order</u>
- 3 <u>instead of only one.</u>
- 4 (3) In a county with a population of three thousand inhabitants or
- 5 more, where experience demonstrates that the use of only one key number
- 6 does not produce a list of names of sufficient number to make the system
- 7 of practical use, the district judge or judges may, in their discretion,
- 8 order the selecting of two key numbers.
- 9 (4) The jury commissioner shall make a record of the manner in which
- 10 the key number or numbers were drawn was selected, the name of the judge
- 11 present, and the date and the hour of the <u>drawing</u> selection, the same to
- 12 be certified by the jury commissioner, and such records shall become a
- 13 part of the public records of the county. The jury commissioner may use
- 14 an electrical or mechanical system or device in carrying out his or her
- 15 duties pursuant to this section.
- Sec. 11. Section 25-1628, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 17 amended to read:
- 18 25-1628 (1) Upon request of the jury commissioner At least once each
- 19 calendar year, the officer having charge of the election records shall
- 20 furnish to the jury commissioner a complete list of the names, dates of
- 21 birth, addresses, and motor vehicle operator license numbers or state
- 22 identification card numbers of all registered voters electors nineteen
- 23 years of age or older in the county. Each December, the The Department of
- 24 Motor Vehicles shall make available to each jury commissioner each
- 25 December a list in magnetic, optical, digital, or other electronic format
- 26 mutually agreed to by the jury commissioner and the department containing
- 27 the names, dates of birth, addresses, and motor vehicle operator license
- 28 numbers or state identification card numbers of all licensed motor
- 29 vehicle operators and state identification card holders nineteen years of
- 30 age or older in the county. The jury commissioner may request such a list
- 31 of licensed motor vehicle operators and state identification card holders

- 1 from the county treasurer if the county treasurer has an automated
- 2 procedure for developing such lists. If a jury commissioner requests
- 3 similar lists at other times from the department, the cost of processing
- 4 such lists shall be paid by the county which the requesting jury
- 5 commissioner serves.
- 6 (2) Upon receipt of both lists described in subsection (1) of this
- 7 section, the jury commissioner shall merge combine the separate lists
- 8 <u>into one combined list</u> and attempt to reduce duplication to the best of
- 9 his or her ability to produce a master list. In counties having a
- 10 population of seven thousand inhabitants or more, the jury commissioner
- 11 shall produce a master list at least once each calendar year. In counties
- 12 having a population of three thousand inhabitants but less than seven
- 13 thousand inhabitants, the jury commissioner shall produce a master list
- 14 at least once every two calendar years. In counties having a population
- 15 of less than three thousand inhabitants, the jury commissioner shall
- 16 produce a master list at least once every five calendar years.
- 17 (3) The <u>jury commissioner shall then create a master proposed juror</u>
- 18 list shall be derived by selecting from the combined master list the name
- 19 of the person whose numerical order on such list corresponds with the key
- 20 number and each successive tenth name thereafter. The jury commissioner
- 21 shall certify that the <u>master</u> proposed juror list has been made in
- 22 accordance with the Jury Selection Act sections 25-1625 to 25-1637.
- 23 (4) Any duplication of names on a master list shall not be grounds
- 24 for quashing any panel pursuant to section 32 of this act 25-1637 or for
- 25 the disqualification of any juror.
- 26 (5) In counties having a population of seven thousand inhabitants or
- 27 more, the jury commissioner shall produce a master list at least once
- 28 each calendar year. In counties having a population of three thousand
- 29 <u>inhabitants</u> but less than seven thousand inhabitants, the jury
- 30 commissioner shall produce a master list at least once every two calendar
- 31 years. In counties having a population of less than three thousand

1 inhabitants, the jury commissioner shall produce a master list at least

- 2 <u>once every five calendar years.</u>
- 3 Sec. 12. Section 25-1629, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 4 amended to read:
- 5 <u>25-1629</u> (1) After creating a master list under section 11 of this
- 6 act, the The jury commissioner shall draw potential jurors from the
- 7 master list for service on petit and grand juries for the jury term in
- 8 <u>the manner and number provided in this section or as the judge or judges</u>
- 9 otherwise direct immediately upon deriving the proposed juror list mail a
- 10 juror qualification form to each proposed juror pursuant to section
- 11 25-1629.01 and investigate the persons whose names are found on the list.
- 12 (2) The jury commissioner shall draw such number of potential jurors
- 13 for service on petit juries as the judge or judges direct.
- 14 (3)(a) Unless the judge or judges order that no grand jury be drawn,
- 15 the jury commissioner shall draw such number of potential jurors for
- 16 grand jury service:
- 17 (i) As the jury commissioner deems necessary to arrive at a list of
- 18 eighty persons who possess the qualifications of jurors set forth in
- 19 section 7 of this act; or
- 20 <u>(ii) As the judge or judges may otherwise direct.</u>
- 21 (b) If the judge or judges initially order that no grand jury be
- 22 drawn, such judge or judges may at any time thereafter order the drawing
- 23 <u>of a grand jury.</u>
- 24 (4) The jury commissioner shall investigate the potential jurors so
- 25 drawn pursuant to the two-step qualifying and summoning system or the
- one-step qualifying and summoning system.
- 27 <u>(5) If the jury commissioner uses the two-step qualifying and</u>
- 28 summoning system, he or she shall mail to each potential juror a juror
- 29 <u>qualification form pursuant to section 13 of this act.</u>
- 30 (6) If the jury commissioner uses the one-step qualifying and
- 31 summoning system, he or she shall mail to each potential juror a juror

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1 qualification form pursuant to section 13 of this act and shall serve the 2 potential juror with a summons pursuant to section 23 of this act.

3 (7) If the jury commissioner he or she finds, after reviewing the 4 completed juror qualification forms, that a potential juror does not 5 possess any one of them is not possessed of the qualifications of a juror petit jurors as set forth in section 7 of this act 25-1601 or is excluded 6 7 by the terms of section 7 of this act 25-1601, the jury commissioner he or she shall strike such potential juror's name from the master list and 8 9 make a record of each name stricken, which record shall be kept in the 10 jury commissioner's his or her office subject to inspection by the court and attorneys of record in cases triable to a jury pending before the 11 court, under such rules as the court may prescribe. The potential jurors 12 13 list as thus qualified revised shall constitute the revised jury pool list from which grand and petit jurors shall be selected, until such pool 14 list shall have been exhausted in the manner hereinafter set forth in the 15 Jury Selection Act or until otherwise ordered by the judge or judges. 16 17 Unless otherwise ordered by the judge or judges, the jury commissioner 18 shall immediately upon completing the revision of the list, in the 19 presence of a judge for such district, select at random the names of eighty persons possessing the qualifications for grand jurors as set out 20 21 in section 25-1601. When no grand jury list is selected, the judge or 22 judges may at any time order the selecting of a grand jury list. This list shall constitute the list from which grand jurors shall be chosen. 23 24 Any judge of the district court shall upon the request of any 25 (8) Any person entitled to access to the list of names stricken may make a request to the judge of the district court, in accordance with 26 27 28

section 28 of this act, for an explanation of the reasons a name has been stricken. If the judge is satisfied that such request is made in good faith and in accordance with section 28 of this act, the judge shall , if satisfied that such request is made in good faith, direct the jury commissioner to appear before the judge at chambers and, in the presence

1 of the <u>requesting complaining</u> person, state his or her reasons for

- 2 striking <u>such</u> the name <u>specified in the request</u>.
- 3 (9) If any person places a name or asks to have a name placed in the
- 4 revised jury pool in a manner that is not authorized under the Jury
- 5 Selection Act, he or she shall be quilty of a Class IV felony.
- 6 Sec. 13. Section 25-1629.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
- 7 is amended to read:
- 8 25-1629.01 <u>(1)</u> The jury commissioner shall <u>deliver a juror</u>
- 9 qualification form by first-class mail or personal service to each
- 10 potential every prospective juror selected to receive the form under
- 11 <u>section 12 of this act. The jury commissioner shall include</u> whose name
- 12 appears on the proposed juror list a juror qualification form accompanied
- 13 by instructions to complete fill out and return the form by mail to the
- 14 jury commissioner within ten days after its receipt. The form may be
- 15 returned to the jury commissioner by mail or by an electronic submission
- 16 process.
- 17 (2) The juror qualification form shall be in the form prescribed by
- 18 the Supreme Court. Notarization of the juror qualification form shall not
- 19 be required. If the <u>potential prospective</u> juror is unable to <u>complete</u>
- 20 fill out the form, another person may do it for the potential juror him
- 21 or her and shall indicate that such other person he or she has done so
- 22 and the reason therefor.
- 23 (3) If it appears that there is an omission, ambiguity, or error in
- 24 a returned form, the jury commissioner shall again send the form with
- 25 instructions to the potential prospective juror to make the necessary
- 26 addition, clarification, or correction and to return the form to the jury
- 27 commissioner within ten days after its second receipt.
- Sec. 14. Section 25-1629.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
- 29 is amended to read:
- 30 <u>25-1629.02 (1) Any potential prospective</u> juror who fails to return
- 31 a completed juror qualification form as instructed shall be directed by

- 1 the jury commissioner to appear before him or her to fill out the juror
- 2 qualification form. At the time of the <u>potential</u> prospective juror's
- 3 appearance for jury service or at the time of any interview before the
- 4 court or jury commissioner, any potential prospective juror may be
- 5 required to fill out another juror qualification form, at which time the
- 6 <u>potential</u> prospective juror may be questioned with regard to his or her
- 7 responses to questions contained on the form and grounds for his or her
- 8 excuse or disqualification. Any information thus acquired by the court or
- 9 jury commissioner shall be noted on the juror qualification form.
- 10 (2) Any person who knowingly fails to complete and return or who
- 11 willfully misrepresents a material fact on a juror qualification form for
- 12 the purpose of avoiding or securing service as a juror shall be guilty of
- 13 contempt of court.
- 14 Sec. 15. Section 25-1641, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 15 amended to read:
- 16 $\frac{25-1641}{10}$ (1) After creating the revised jury pool under section 12
- 17 of this act Unless the judge or judges shall order that no jury be drawn,
- 18 the jury commissioner shall select a list of petit jurors for the initial
- 19 jury panel of a jury term in the manner directed by the judge or judges
- 20 pursuant to this section. At least ten days before the first day of any
- 21 jury term of the district court or ten days before the day the jury is
- 22 otherwise directed to report, the jury commissioner three of the judges
- 23 of the court if there be three, or one of the judges if there be less
- 24 than three, or a judge of the county court or the sheriff or such other
- 25 elective officer of the county as the judge or judges may designate shall
- 26 appear at the office of the jury commissioner who, in the presence of
- 27 such judge or judges or the sheriff or other officer of the county so
- 28 designated by the judge or judges, shall draw select by chance the names
- 29 of thirty persons or such number as the judge or judges may otherwise
- 30 direct from the revised jury pool, for each judge sitting with a jury in
- 31 such court, as petit jurors for such initial jury panel term. The jury

- 1 <u>commissioner</u> person selecting the names may use a manual jury selection
- 2 process or an electronic jury selection process an electrical or
- 3 mechanical system or device in carrying out his or her duties pursuant to
- 4 this section.
- 5 (2) After drawing the names pursuant to subsection (1) of this
- 6 section, the jury commissioner shall:
- 7 (a) Serve a summons pursuant to section 23 of this act on each
- 8 person whose name was drawn if the jury commissioner uses the two-step
- 9 qualifying and summoning system; or
- 10 (b) Notify each person whose name was drawn of the date and time to
- 11 <u>report for jury service if the jury commissioner uses the one-step</u>
- 12 qualifying and summoning system.
- 13 If an electronic or mechanical system or device is used to select
- 14 the petit jurors, the judge or judges or the sheriff or other elective
- 15 officer so designated need not be personally present at the office of the
- 16 jury commissioner during such selection. In lieu thereof, the presiding
- 17 judge or his or her designated representative may direct the jury
- 18 commissioner to select at random from the proposed jury list a specified
- 19 number of petit jurors for such term of court or, if more than one jury
- 20 panel is summoned during such term, for each such panel.
- 21 Sec. 16. Section 25-1632, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 22 amended to read:
- 23 25-1632 Subsequent panels of petit jurors for two weeks each shall
- 24 be called as the judge or judges may determine during the jury term. If
- 25 it is determined that a , and at least ten days before such subsequent
- 26 panel<u>or panels are necessary</u>, the judge or judges, as the case may be,
- 27 shall order proceed as aforesaid to the office of the jury commissioner,
- 28 and the jury commissioner to shall, in the presence of such judge or
- 29 judges, draw by chance in the same manner such number of names as such
- 30 judge or judges shall direct from the revised jury pool as petit jurors
- 31 for such subsequent two weeks period of that term for jury panel service.

- 1 The jury commissioner may use a manual jury selection process or an
- 2 <u>electronic jury selection process in carrying out his or her duties</u>
- 3 pursuant to this section. The persons so drawn shall be notified and
- 4 summoned the same as those drawn for the initial jury panel under section
- 5 15 of this act first two weeks. The judge or judges may, by order, defer
- 6 the drawing and reporting of subsequent jury panels for service after the
- 7 first two weeks of the term for such period of time as they may determine
- 8 and in such order or orders may fix the number of subsequent jury panels
- 9 to be drawn and the number of jurors to be drawn for each panel. During
- 10 the <u>jury</u> term the jury commissioner shall draw, notify, and summon
- 11 <u>subsequent jury panels of other</u> petit jurors in the manner hereinbefore
- 12 provided <u>in this section</u> as often as the length of the <u>jury</u> term may
- 13 require and the judge or judges direct. The provisions of this section
- 14 shall not be mandatory in counties having a population of less than sixty
- 15 thousand inhabitants.
- 16 Sec. 17. Section 25-1631.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
- is amended to read:
- 18 25-1631.03 The judge shall examine all jurors so selected who appear
- 19 for jury service. If, and if, after all excuses have been allowed, there
- 20 <u>remain</u> more than twenty-four petit jurors for each judge sitting with a
- 21 jury who are qualified and not excluded by the terms of section 7 of
- 22 this act 25-1601, shall remain, the court may excuse by lot such number
- 23 in excess of twenty-four as the court may see fit. Those jurors who have
- 24 been discharged in excess of twenty-four for each judge, but are
- 25 qualified, shall not be discharged permanently, but shall remain subject
- 26 to be resummoned for jury service upon the same jury panel and before a
- 27 new key number is selected.
- Sec. 18. Section 25-1632.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
- 29 is amended to read:
- 30 $\frac{25-1632.01}{25-1632.01}$ Whenever there is shall be pending in the criminal court
- 31 any case in which , wherein the defendant is shall be charged with a

- 1 felony, and the judge holding the court is convinced from the
- 2 circumstances of the case that a jury cannot be obtained from the regular
- 3 jury panel to try the case, the judge may, in his or her discretion,
- 4 prior to the day fixed for the trial of the case, direct the jury
- 5 commissioner to draw, in the same manner as described in section 16 of
- 6 this act 25-1632, such number of names as the judge or judges may direct
- 7 as a special jury panel from which a jury may be selected to try such
- 8 case, which jury panel shall be notified and summoned for such said day
- 9 <u>in the same manner</u> as the regular <u>jury panel</u>.
- 10 Sec. 19. Section 25-1634, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 11 amended to read:
- 12 <u>25-1634 (1) If for any reason it appears to the judge that the jury</u>
- 13 panel of petit jurors will not be adequate at the opening of the court,
- 14 or at any time during the jury term, the jury commissioner shall, when
- ordered by the judge, or judges of the court draw, in the same manner and
- 16 presence as the first drawing of an initial jury panel under section 15
- 17 of this act, such number of jurors as the judge or judges shall direct to
- 18 fill such jury panel or as extra jurors, and those drawn shall be
- 19 notified and summoned in the same manner as described in section 15 of
- 20 this act the others or as the court may direct. This shall also apply to
- 21 the selection of <u>tales jurors</u> talesmen for particular causes after the
- 22 regular jury panel is exhausted.
- 23 (2) Each person summoned under subsection (1) of this section shall
- 24 forthwith appear before the court and if qualified shall serve on the
- 25 jury panel unless such person is excused from service or lawfully
- 26 <u>challenged. If necessary, jurors shall continue to be so drawn from time</u>
- 27 <u>to time until the jury panel is filled.</u>
- 28 Sec. 20. Section 25-1634.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
- 29 is amended to read:
- 30 $\frac{25-1634.02}{(1)}$ When it is deemed necessary, the judge shall direct
- 31 the jury commissioner or the sheriff of the county or such other person

- 1 as may be designated by the judge to summon from the bystanders or the
- 2 body of the county a sufficient number of persons having the
- 3 qualifications of jurors, as provided in section 7 of this act 25-1601,
- 4 to serve as tales jurors to fill the jury panel, in order that a jury may
- 5 be obtained.
- 6 (2) The persons summoned under subsection (1) of this section who
- 7 are not chosen to serve on the jury shall be discharged from the jury
- 8 panel as soon as the judge so determines. Such persons shall not
- 9 thereafter be disqualified from service as jurors when regularly drawn
- 10 <u>from the revised jury pool pursuant to the Jury Selection Act unless</u>
- 11 <u>excused by the judge.</u>
- 12 Sec. 21. Section 25-1634.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
- 13 is amended to read:
- 14 25-1634.01 (1) Each person summoned, under the provisions of
- 15 section 25-1634, shall forthwith appear before the court and if competent
- 16 shall serve on the petit jury unless such person shall be excused from
- 17 service or lawfully challenged. If necessary, jurors shall continue to be
- 18 so drawn from time to time until the panel shall be filled.
- 19 (2)—The court may postpone service of a <u>petit</u> qualified juror from
- 20 one jury panel to a specific future jury panel. A written form may shall
- 21 be completed for each such juror, giving the juror's name and address and
- 22 the reason for the postponement and bearing the signature of the district
- 23 judge. Such form shall become a part of the official records of the jury
- 24 commissioner. The names of jurors transferred from one jury panel to
- 25 another shall be added to the names drawn for a particular jury panel as
- 26 drawn under section 16 of this act 25-1632.
- 27 Sec. 22. Section 25-1633, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 28 amended to read:
- 29 $\frac{25-1633}{}$ (1) If a grand jury shall be required by law, or by order
- 30 of the judge or judges, for any jury term of court, it shall be the duty
- 31 of the jury commissioner to draw by chance the names of out of the box or

- 1 wheel, containing the names of the grand jury list, in the presence of
- 2 the judge or judges, forty names of persons, or such number as the judge
- 3 or judges direct. Such names shall be drawn from that portion of the
- 4 revised jury pool made up of the eighty persons, or such other number of
- 5 persons as directed by the judge or judges, that were drawn under
- 6 subsection (3) of section 12 of this act and which have been placed in
- 7 the revised jury pool. The jury commissioner may use a manual jury
- 8 <u>selection process or an electronic jury selection process in carrying out</u>
- 9 <u>his or her duties pursuant to this section</u>. The jury commissioner shall
- 10 then prepare a list of such names, which list shall contain the given
- 11 names and surnames of persons named therein, their respective places of
- 12 residence, and their several occupations.
- 13 <u>(2) After drawing the names pursuant to subsection (1) of this</u>
- 14 <u>section</u>, the jury commissioner shall:
- 15 (a) Serve a summons pursuant to section 23 of this act on each
- 16 person whose name was drawn if the jury commissioner uses the two-step
- 17 qualifying and summoning system; or
- 18 (b) Notify each person whose name was drawn of the date and time to
- 19 report for jury service if the jury commissioner uses the one-step
- 20 <u>qualifying and summoning system.</u>
- 21 (3) Such list of names shall then be turned over by the jury
- 22 commissioner to a board to consist of the jury commissioner, the
- 23 presiding judge of the district court, and one other person whom the
- 24 presiding judge shall designate. The presiding judge shall be the
- 25 chairperson. Such board shall select from such the list of forty names,
- 26 the names of sixteen persons to serve as , qualified as grand jurors
- 27 under this section, and the persons whose names are so selected shall be
- 28 the grand jurors. Such board shall also select from the list of forty
- 29 names, the names of three additional persons to serve as alternate
- 30 jurors. The alternate jurors shall sit with the grand jury and
- 31 participate in all investigative proceedings to the same extent as the

- 1 regular grand jurors. Alternate grand jurors shall be permitted to
- 2 question witnesses, review evidence, and participate in all discussions
- 3 of the grand jury which occur prior to the conclusion of presentation of
- 4 evidence. When the grand jury has determined that no additional evidence
- 5 is necessary for its investigation, the alternate grand jurors shall be
- 6 separated from the regular grand jurors and shall not participate in any
- 7 further discussions, deliberations, or voting of the grand jury unless
- 8 one or more of the regular grand jurors is or are excused because of
- 9 illness or other sufficient reason. Such alternate jurors shall fill
- 10 vacancies in the order of their selection.
- 11 Sec. 23. Section 25-1606, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 12 amended to read:
- 13 $\frac{25-1606}{}$ (1) The summons of grand and petit jurors for the courts of
- 14 this state shall be served by the jury commissioner, the clerk of such
- 15 court, or any other person authorized by the court by delivering mailing
- 16 a copy of such summons, containing the time, place, and the name of the
- 17 court which such jurors are to attend, by either registered, certified,
- 18 or first-class mail or personal service to the person whose name has been
- 19 drawn, not less than ten days before the day such juror is to appear as a
- 20 juror in such court, except that this shall not prevent service of
- 21 special summons on a <u>tales juror</u> talesman by the sheriff of the county or
- 22 by such other person as may be designated by the judge or judges.
- 23 (2) If the jury commissioner uses the two-step qualifying and
- 24 <u>summoning</u> system, a summons sent under this section shall include the
- 25 day, time, place, and name of the court where the juror is to report for
- 26 <u>jury service</u>.
- 27 (3) If the jury commissioner uses the one-step qualifying and
- 28 summoning system, a summons sent under this section shall include such
- 29 <u>details as to the day, time, place, and name of the court where the juror</u>
- 30 <u>is to report for jury service as are known at the time the summons is</u>
- 31 sent along with additional instructions regarding the manner in which the

- 1 juror will be notified by the court of any additional details.
- 2 Sec. 24. Section 25-1607, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 3 amended to read:
- 4 25-1607 (1) Each grand juror and petit juror summoned shall appear
- 5 before the court on the day and at the hour specified in the summons or
- 6 <u>as further directed by the</u> , and shall not depart without leave of court.
- 7 (2) Any person summoned for jury service who fails to appear or to
- 8 complete jury service as directed shall be ordered by the court to appear
- 9 forthwith and show cause for such failure to comply with the summons. If
- 10 such person fails to show good cause for noncompliance with the summons,
- 11 <u>he or she shall be guilty of contempt of court.</u>
- 12 (3) No person shall be guilty of contempt of court under this
- 13 section for failing to respond to a summons sent by first-class mail, if
- 14 sent pursuant to a one-step qualifying and summoning system.
- 15 Sec. 25. Section 25-1639, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 16 amended to read:
- 17 $\frac{25-1639}{}$ In any five-year period no person shall be required to:
- 18 (1) Serve as a petit juror for more than four calendar weeks, except
- 19 if necessary to complete service in a particular case;
- 20 (2) Serve on more than one grand jury; or
- 21 (3) Serve as both a grand and petit juror.
- 22 Sec. 26. Section 25-1631, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 23 amended to read:
- 24 25-1631 All parties to an action which is filed with a county court
- 25 of this state may agree that the jury may be selected up to thirty-one
- 26 days prior to the date of trial. The stipulation must be unanimous among
- 27 all parties and evidenced by a joint stipulation to the court.
- 28 Sec. 27. The clerk magistrate shall provide written notice of a
- 29 jury trial to the jury commissioner not less than thirty days prior to
- 30 trial. The notice shall set forth the number of petit jurors to be
- 31 summoned and the day and hour the petit jurors are to appear before the

- 1 court.
- 2 Sec. 28. Section 25-1635, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 3 amended to read:
- 4 25-1635 (1) It shall be unlawful for a jury commissioner, or the
- 5 officer in charge of the election records, or any clerk or deputy
- 6 thereof, or any person who may obtain access to any record showing the
- 7 names of persons drawn to serve as grand or petit jurors to disclose to
- 8 any person, except to other officers in carrying out official duties or
- 9 as herein provided, the name of any person so drawn or to permit any
- 10 person to examine such record or to make a list of such names, except
- 11 under order of the court. The application for such an order shall be
- 12 filed in the form of a motion in the office of the clerk of the district
- 13 court, containing the signature and residence of the applicant or his or
- 14 her attorney and stating all the grounds on which the request for such
- order is based. Such order shall not be made except for good cause shown
- 16 in open court and it shall be spread upon the <u>record</u> journal of the
- 17 court. Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall
- 18 be guilty of a Class IV felony. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions
- 19 of this section, the judge or judges in any district may, in his, her, or
- 20 their discretion, provide by express order for the disclosure of the
- 21 names of persons drawn from the revised jury pool key number list for
- 22 actual service as grand or petit jurors.
- 23 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the Supreme
- 24 Court or an agent of the Supreme Court acting under the direction and
- 25 supervision of the Chief Justice shall have access to juror qualification
- 26 forms for research purposes. The Supreme Court and its agent shall treat
- 27 such information as confidential, and nothing identifying any individual
- 28 shall be released.
- 29 Sec. 29. Section 25-1640, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 30 amended to read:
- 31 $\frac{25-1640}{6}$ Any person who is summoned to serve on jury duty shall not

- 1 be subject to discharge from employment, loss of pay, loss of sick leave,
- 2 loss of vacation time, or any other form of penalty, as a result of his
- 3 or her absence from employment due to such jury duty, upon giving
- 4 reasonable notice to his or her employer of such summons. Any person who
- 5 is summoned to serve on jury duty shall be excused upon request from any
- 6 shift work for those days required to serve as a juror without loss of
- 7 pay. No employer shall subject an employee to discharge, loss of pay,
- 8 loss of sick leave, loss of vacation time, or any other form of penalty
- 9 on account of his or her absence from employment by reason of jury duty,
- 10 except that an employer may reduce the pay of an employee by an amount
- 11 equal to any compensation, other than expenses, paid by the court for
- 12 jury duty. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be
- 13 guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor.
- 14 Sec. 30. Section 25-1611, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 15 amended to read:
- 16 25-1611 Any person summoned for jury service who fails to appear or
- 17 to complete jury service as directed shall be ordered by the court to
- 18 appear forthwith and show cause for such failure to comply with the
- 19 summons. If such person fails to show good cause for noncompliance with
- 20 the summons he or she shall be guilty of contempt of court.
- 21 If any jury commissioner or deputy jury commissioner, sheriff or
- 22 deputy sheriff, or person having charge of election records, neglects or
- 23 fails to perform the duties imposed by the Jury Selection Act sections
- 24 25-1601 to 25-1639, the person so offending shall be considered guilty of
- 25 contempt of court.
- Sec. 31. Section 25-1612, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 27 amended to read:
- 28 25-1612 (1) If a sheriff or other officer corruptly or through
- 29 favor or ill will, summons a juror with the intent that such juror shall
- 30 find a verdict for or against either party, or <u>summons</u> shall summon a
- 31 grand juror from like motives with the intent that such grand juror shall

- 1 or shall not find an indictment or presentment against any particular
- 2 individual, the sheriff or other officer he shall be fined not exceeding
- 3 five hundred dollars, shall and forfeit his or her office, and shall be
- 4 forever disqualified from holding any office in this state.
- 5 (2) Any person who seeks shall seek the position of juror, or who
- 6 asks shall ask any attorney or other officer of the court or any other
- 7 person or officer in any manner charged with the duty of selecting the
- 8 jury_T to secure or procure his <u>or her</u> selection as a <u>juror</u> juryman shall
- 9 be deemed guilty of a contempt of court, shall and be fined not exceeding
- twenty dollars, and shall thereby be disqualified from serving as a juror
- 11 for that <u>jury</u> term.
- 12 (3) Any attorney or party to a suit pending for trial at that jury
- 13 term who requests shall request, or solicits solicit the placing of any
- 14 person upon a jury, or <u>in upon</u> the <u>revised</u> jury <u>pool</u> list, shall be
- 15 deemed guilty of a contempt of court and be fined not exceeding one
- 16 hundred dollars, and the person so sought to be put upon the jury or in
- 17 the revised jury pool list, shall be disqualified to serve as a juror for
- 18 at that jury term of the court.
- 19 Sec. 32. Section 25-1637, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 20 amended to read:
- 21 $\frac{25-1637}{}$ (1) A party may move to stay the proceedings, to quash the
- 22 entire jury panel, or for other appropriate relief on the ground of
- 23 substantial failure to comply with the Jury Selection Act Chapter 25,
- 24 article 16, in selecting the grand or petit jury. Such motion shall be
- 25 made within seven days after the moving party discovered or by the
- 26 exercise of diligence could have discovered the grounds for such motion,
- 27 and in any event before the petit jury is sworn to try the case.
- 28 (2) Upon a motion filed under subsection (1) of this section
- 29 containing a sworn statement of facts which, if true, would constitute a
- 30 substantial failure to comply with the Jury Selection Act Chapter 25,
- 31 article 16, the moving party is entitled to present, in support of the

- 1 motion, the testimony of the jury commissioner or the clerk, any relevant
- 2 records and papers not public or otherwise available which were used by
- 3 the jury commissioner or the clerk, and any other relevant evidence. If
- 4 the court determines that in selecting either a grand jury or a petit
- 5 jury there has been a substantial failure to comply with the Jury
- 6 <u>Selection Act</u> Chapter 25, article 16, the court shall stay the
- 7 proceedings pending the selection of the jury in conformity with the act
- 8 Chapter 25, article 16, quash an entire jury panel, or grant other
- 9 appropriate relief.
- 10 (3) The procedures prescribed by this section are the exclusive
- 11 means by which the state, a person accused of a crime, or a party in a
- 12 civil case may challenge a jury on the ground that the jury was not
- 13 selected in conformity with the Jury Selection Act Chapter 25, article
- 14 16.
- 15 (4) The contents of any records or papers used by the jury
- 16 commissioner or the clerk in connection with the selection process and
- 17 not made public under the Jury Selection Act Chapter 25, article 16,
- 18 shall not be disclosed, except in connection with the preparation or
- 19 presentation of a motion under subsection (1) of this section, until
- 20 after all persons <u>in</u> on the revised <u>jury pool</u> proposed juror list have
- 21 been discharged. The parties in a case may inspect, reproduce, and copy
- 22 the records or papers at all reasonable times during the preparation and
- 23 pendency of a motion under subsection (1) of this section.
- 24 (5) Whenever the entire <u>jury</u> panel is quashed, the court shall make
- 25 an order directing the jury commissioner to <u>draw select</u> a new key number
- 26 in the manner provided in section <u>10 of this act</u> 25-1627 and prepare a
- 27 new master proposed juror list in the manner provided in section 11 of
- 28 this act 25-1628. The jury commissioner shall prepare a new revised jury
- 29 <u>pool</u> revise such list and qualify and summon jurors as provided in the
- 30 Jury Selection Act sections 25-1629 to 25-1630.
- 31 Sec. 33. Section 25-412.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

- 1 amended to read:
- 2 25-412.04 The jury for any case to be tried pursuant to an agreement
- 3 entered into under section 25-412.03 shall be selected from the county in
- 4 which the case was first filed. The jury shall be selected elected in the
- 5 manner prescribed in the Jury Selection Act Chapter 25, article 16. The
- 6 summons shall direct attendance before the court by which the case is to
- 7 be tried and the return thereof shall be made to the same court.
- 8 Sec. 34. Section 25-1107.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
- 9 is amended to read:
- 10 25-1107.01 Jurors shall be permitted, but not required, to take
- 11 notes. The notes may be used during the jury's deliberations and , but
- 12 not preserved for review on appeal. The notes shall be treated as
- 13 confidential between the juror making them and the other jurors. The
- 14 <u>notes shall not be preserved in any form.</u> The trial judge shall ensure
- 15 the confidentiality of the notes during the course of the trial and the
- 16 jury's deliberations and shall instruct the bailiff to cause the notes to
- 17 be destroyed immediately mutilate and destroy such notes upon return of
- 18 the verdict.
- 19 Sec. 35. Section 25-1108, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 20 amended to read:
- 21 25-1108 Whenever, in the opinion of the court, it is proper for the
- 22 jury to have a view of property which is the subject of litigation, or of
- 23 the place in which any material fact occurred, it may order them to be
- 24 conducted in a body, under charge of the bailiff an officer, to the
- 25 place, which shall be shown to them by the bailiff, an individual some
- 26 person appointed by the court for that purpose, or both. While the jury
- 27 are thus absent, no person other than the <u>bailiff or individual</u> person so
- 28 appointed shall speak to them on any subject connected with the trial.
- 29 Sec. 36. Section 25-1121, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 30 amended to read:
- 31 25-1121 In every action for the recovery of money only, or specific

- 1 real property, the jury, in their discretion, may render a general or
- 2 special verdict. In all other cases the court may direct the jury to find
- 3 a special verdict, in writing, upon all or any of the issues and in all
- 4 cases may instruct them, if they render a general verdict, to find upon
- 5 particular questions of fact to be stated in writing, and may direct a
- 6 written finding thereon. The special verdict or finding must be filed
- 7 with the clerk and entered <u>upon the record</u> on the journal.
- 8 Sec. 37. Section 25-1313, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 9 amended to read:
- 10 25-1313 When a trial by jury has been had, judgment must be <u>ordered</u>
- 11 rendered by the court and entered upon the record by the clerk in
- 12 conformity to the verdict, unless it is special, or the court <u>orders</u>
- 13 order the case to be reserved for future argument or consideration.
- 14 Sec. 38. Section 25-2705, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 15 amended to read:
- 16 25-2705 (1) Either party to any case in county court, except (a) a
- 17 criminal case cases arising from a under city or village ordinances,
- 18 traffic <u>infraction or infractions</u>, other <u>infraction</u> <u>infractions</u>, and <u>(b)</u>
- 19 any matter arising under the Nebraska Probate Code or the Nebraska
- 20 Uniform Trust Code, may demand a trial by jury.
- 21 (2) In civil cases, the demand shall be in writing and shall be
- 22 filed with the court:
- 23 (a) By a plaintiff on the date the complaint is filed with the
- 24 court;
- 25 (b) By a defendant on or before the date the answer is filed with
- 26 the court;
- 27 (c) By a counterclaimant on the date the counterclaim is filed with
- 28 the court;
- 29 (d) By a counterclaim defendant on or before the date the reply to
- 30 the counterclaim is filed with the court;
- 31 (e) By a third-party plaintiff on the date the third-party complaint

- 1 is filed with the court;
- 2 (f) By a third-party defendant on or before the date the answer to
- 3 the third-party complaint is filed with the court;
- 4 (g) By a cross-claimant on the date the cross-claim is filed with
- 5 the court; and
- 6 (h) By a cross-claim defendant on or before the date the answer to
- 7 the cross-claim is filed with the court.
- 8 (3) (2) All provisions of law relating to juries in the district
- 9 courts shall apply to juries in the county courts, and the district court
- 10 <u>master</u> jury list shall be used, except that juries in the county courts
- 11 shall consist of six persons.
- 12 Sec. 39. Section 28-916, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 13 amended to read:
- 14 28-916 As used in sections 28-916 to 28-923, unless the context
- 15 otherwise requires:
- 16 (1) Juror <u>means</u> shall mean any person who is a member of any <u>petit</u>
- 17 jury or grand jury, impaneled by any court of this state or by any public
- 18 servant authorized by law to impanel a jury. The word juror also includes
- 19 any person who has been drawn or summoned to attend as a <u>potential</u>
- 20 prospective juror;
- 21 (2) Testimony <u>means</u> shall mean oral or written statements,
- 22 documents, or any other evidence that may be offered by or through a
- 23 witness in an official proceeding; and
- 24 (3) Official proceeding means shall mean a proceeding heard or which
- 25 may be heard before any legislative, judicial, administrative, or other
- 26 governmental agency or official authorized to take evidence under oath,
- 27 including any referee, hearing examiner, commissioner, notary, or other
- 28 person taking testimony or deposition in connection with any such
- 29 proceeding.
- 30 Sec. 40. Section 29-1201, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 31 amended to read:

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1 29-1201 Any person held in jail charged with an indictable offense 2 shall be discharged if he or she is be not indicted at the term of court at which he or she is held to answer, unless such person is shall have 3 4 been committed to jail on such charge after the rising and final report 5 of the regular grand jury for that term, in which case the court may discharge such person, or require such person to enter into recognizance 6 7 with sufficient security for his or her appearance before such court to answer such charge at the next term. However, thereof; Provided, such 8 9 person so held in jail without indictment shall not be $discharged_T$ if it 10 appears to the satisfaction of the court that the witnesses on the part of the state have been enticed or kept away or are detained and prevented 11 12 from attending court by sickness or some inevitable accident.

Sec. 41. Section 29-2003, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

29-2003 When two or more persons shall have been charged together in the same indictment or information with a crime, and one or more shall have demanded a separate trial and had the same, and when the court isshall be satisfied by reason of the same evidence being required in the further trial of parties to the same indictment or information, that the petit jurors from the jury regular panel and bystanders are incompetent, because of having heard the evidence, to sit in further causes in the same indictment or information, then it shall be lawful for the court may to require the jury commissioner clerk of the court to draw in the same manner as described in section 16 of this act such number of names as the court may direct as a separate jury panel from which a jury may be selected, which panel shall be notified and summoned for the day and hour as ordered by the court write the names of sixty electors of the county wherein such cause is being tried, each upon a separate slip of paper, and place the same in a box, and, after the same shall have been thoroughly mixed, to draw therefrom such number as in the opinion of the court will be sufficient from which to select a jury to hear such cause.

- 1 The jurors electors whose names are so drawn shall be summoned by the
- 2 sheriff to forthwith appear before the court, and, after having been
- 3 examined, such as are found <u>qualified</u> competent and shall have no lawful
- 4 excuse for not serving as jurors shall constitute a special venire from
- 5 which the court shall proceed to have a jury impaneled for the trial of
- 6 the cause. The court may repeat the exercise of this power until all the
- 7 parties charged in the same indictment or information shall have been
- 8 tried.
- 9 Sec. 42. Section 29-2011, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 10 amended to read:
- 11 29-2011 Jurors shall be permitted, but not required, to take notes.
- 12 The notes may be used during the jury's deliberations and , but not
- 13 preserved for review on appeal. The notes shall be treated as
- 14 confidential between the juror making them and the other jurors. The
- 15 trial judge shall ensure the confidentiality of the notes during the
- 16 course of the trial and the jury's deliberations and shall instruct the
- 17 bailiff to cause the notes to be destroyed immediately mutilate and
- 18 destroy such notes upon return of the verdict.
- 19 Sec. 43. Section 29-2017, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 20 amended to read:
- 21 29-2017 Whenever in the opinion of the court it is proper for the
- 22 jury to have a view of the place in which any material fact occurred, it
- 23 may order them to be conducted in a body, under charge of the bailiff
- 24 sheriff, to the place which shall be shown to them by the bailiff, an
- 25 <u>individual</u> some person appointed by the court, or both. While the jury
- 26 are thus absent, no person other than the bailiff or individual appointed
- 27 <u>by the court</u> sheriff having them in charge and the person appointed to
- 28 show them the place shall speak to them on any subject connected with the
- 29 trial.
- 30 Sec. 44. Section 29-2023, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 31 amended to read:

- 1 29-2023 In case a jury is shall be discharged on account of sickness
- 2 of a juror, or other accident or calamity requiring their discharge, or
- 3 after they have been kept so long together that there is no probability
- 4 of agreeing, the court shall, upon directing the discharge, order that
- 5 the reasons for such discharge shall be entered upon the record journal;
- 6 and such discharge <u>is</u> shall be without prejudice to the prosecution.
- 7 Sec. 45. Section 33-138, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 8 amended to read:
- 9 33-138 (1) Each member of a grand or petit jury in a district court
- 10 or county court shall receive for his or her services thirty-five thirty
- 11 dollars for each day employed in the discharge of his or her duties prior
- 12 to January 1, 1994, and thirty-five dollars for each such day on or after
- 13 such date and mileage at the rate provided in section 81-1176 for each
- 14 mile necessarily traveled. No juror <u>is</u> shall be entitled to pay for the
- 15 days he or she is voluntarily absent or excused from service by order of
- 16 the court. No juror is shall be entitled to pay for nonjudicial days
- 17 unless actually employed in the discharge of his or her duties as a juror
- 18 on such days.
- 19 (2) In the event that any temporary release from service, other than
- 20 that obtained by the request of a juror, <u>occasions</u> shall occasion an
- 21 extra trip or trips to and from the residence of any juror or jurors the
- 22 court may, by special order, allow mileage for such extra trip or trips.
- 23 (3) Payment of jurors for service in the district and county courts
- 24 shall be made by the county.
- 25 (4) A juror may voluntarily waive payment under this section for his
- 26 or her service as a juror.
- 27 Sec. 46. Original sections 25-412.04, 25-1107.01, 25-1108, 25-1121,
- 28 25-1313, 25-1601, 25-1601.03, 25-1602, 25-1603, 25-1606, 25-1607,
- 29 25-1611, 25-1612, 25-1625, 25-1626, 25-1627, 25-1628, 25-1629,
- 30 25-1629.01, 25-1629.02, 25-1631, 25-1631.03, 25-1632, 25-1632.01,
- 31 25-1633, 25-1634, 25-1634.01, 25-1634.02, 25-1635, 25-1636, 25-1637,

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1 25-1639, 25-1640, 25-1641, 25-2705, 28-916, 29-1201, 29-2003, 29-2011,

- 2 29-2017, 29-2023, and 33-138, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are
- 3 repealed.
- 4 Sec. 47. The following sections are outright repealed: Sections
- 5 25-1609, 25-1626.02, 25-1627.01, 25-1629.03, 25-1629.04, 25-1630,
- 6 25-1633.01, 25-1634.03, 25-1642, and 25-1643, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 7 Nebraska.