
SENATE BILL 5151

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Senators Hayner, Niemi, Thorsness, Nelson and Roach; by request of Department of Corrections.

Read first time January 22, 1991. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to method of execution; and amending RCW 10.95.180.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 10.95.180 and 1986 c 194 s 1 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) The punishment of death shall be supervised by the
6 superintendent of the penitentiary and shall be inflicted (~~either by~~
7 ~~hanging by the neck or, at the election of the defendant,~~) by
8 intravenous injection of a substance or substances in a lethal quantity
9 sufficient to cause death and until the defendant is dead. (~~In any~~
10 ~~case,~~) Death shall be pronounced by a licensed physician.

11 (2) All executions, for both men and women, shall be carried out
12 within the walls of the state penitentiary.

13 (3) If any provision of subsection (1) of this section or its
14 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
15 punishment of death shall be supervised by the superintendent of the

1 penitentiary and shall be inflicted either by hanging by the neck or,
2 at the election of the defendant, by intravenous injection of a
3 substance or substances in a lethal quantity sufficient to cause death
4 and until the defendant is dead. In any case, death shall be
5 pronounced by a licensed physician.