

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE BILL

## No. 619

Session of  
1987

INTRODUCED BY NAHILL, TIGUE, VROON, FOX, BELFANTI, NOYE, TRELLO,  
GEIST, RAYMOND, ROBBINS, BUNT, JACKSON, DISTLER, CIVERA,  
REBER, WOZNIAK, SAURMAN, CAWLEY AND PRESTON, MARCH 4, 1987

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 4, 1987

### AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 19, 1913 (P.L.528, No.338), entitled  
2 "An act fixing the penalty for murder of the first degree;  
3 regulating the procedure incident to the infliction thereof;  
4 prescribing and providing for a place and manner of  
5 inflicting said penalty on the grounds of the new Western  
6 Penitentiary of this Commonwealth, in Centre County; making  
7 an appropriation therefor; repealing inconsistent  
8 legislation; and providing that neither this act nor said  
9 repeal shall apply to any case in which it shall appear that  
10 said crime was committed prior to the date of the approval of  
11 this act," providing for execution by means of lethal  
12 injection.

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. Section 1 of the act of June 19, 1913 (P.L.528,  
16 No.338), entitled "An act fixing the penalty for murder of the  
17 first degree; regulating the procedure incident to the  
18 infliction thereof; prescribing and providing for a place and  
19 manner of inflicting said penalty on the grounds of the new  
20 Western Penitentiary of this Commonwealth, in Centre County;  
21 making an appropriation therefor; repealing inconsistent  
22 legislation; and providing that neither this act nor said repeal

1 shall apply to any case in which it shall appear that said crime  
2 was committed prior to the date of the approval of this act," is  
3 amended to read:

4 Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That every person, his  
5 aiders, abettors and counsellors, hereafter convicted of the  
6 crime of murder of the first degree, shall be sentenced to  
7 suffer death in the manner herein provided, and not otherwise.  
8 Such punishment, in every case, must be inflicted by [causing to  
9 pass through the body of the convict a current of electricity of  
10 intensity sufficient to cause death, and the application of such  
11 current must be continued until such convict is dead] injecting  
12 the convict with a lethal dose of a drug approved by the  
13 Department of Corrections which results in the death of the  
14 convict. The said punishment shall be inflicted by the warden or  
15 deputy warden of the Western Penitentiary, or by such person as  
16 the warden shall designate, and shall be inflicted in a building  
17 to be erected on the land owned by the Commonwealth in Centre  
18 County, whereon the buildings of the new Western Penitentiary  
19 are to be built.

20 Section 2. This act shall apply to all persons sentenced to  
21 death.

22 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.