

HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY

Date: May 1, 1998
Bill Subject: Death Penalty/Execution Method
Prepared By: Senate Committee on Criminal Justice

I. Amendments Contained in Message

House Amendment #1 - 360751 to Senate Amendment - 591482 (body with title)

II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message

House Amendment #1 to the Senate Amendment (591482) is an amendment to the Senate strike everything amendment to the HJR 3505 that substitutes House text for the text of the Senate strike everything amendment. However, both texts are substantially similar. There are only two substantive differences. The House proposed constitutional amendment provides that any method of execution shall be allowed, unless prohibited by the U.S. Constitution; the Senate proposed constitutional amendment allows any method of execution, unless the method is specifically prohibited by the U.S. Supreme Court. Second, the House ballot summary states that the proposed constitutional amendment “preserves” the death penalty; the Senate ballot summary states that the proposed constitutional amendment “authorizes” the death penalty.