FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 64

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE UNSICKER.

0028H.02I

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DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 546.680, 546.690, 546.700, 546.710, 546.720, 546.730, 546.740, 546.750, 546.800, 546.810, 546.820, 565.004, 565.006, 565.020, 565.030, 565.032, 565.035, and 565.040, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof four new sections relating to repealing the death penalty, with a penalty provision.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 546.680, 546.690, 546.700, 546.710, 546.720, 546.730, 546.740,

- 2 546.750, 546.800, 546.810, 546.820, 565.004, 565.006, 565.020, 565.030, 565.032, 565.035, and
- 3 565.040, RSMo, are repealed and four new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as
- 4 sections 565.004, 565.006, 565.020, and 565.040, to read as follows:
 - 565.004. 1. Each homicide offense [which] that is lawfully joined in the same
- 2 indictment or information together with any homicide offense or offense other than a homicide
- 3 shall be charged together with such offense in separate counts. A count charging any offense of
- 4 homicide may only be charged and tried together with one or more counts of any other homicide
- 5 or offense other than a homicide as provided in subsection 2 of section 545.140. Except as
- 6 provided in subsections 2, 3, and 4 of this section, no murder in the first degree offense may be
- 7 tried together with any offense other than murder in the first degree. In the event of a joinder of
 - homicide offenses, all offenses charged which are supported by the evidence in the case, together
- 9 with all proper lesser offenses under section 565.029, shall, when requested by one of the parties
- 10 or the court, be submitted to the jury or, in a jury-waived trial, considered by the judge.
- 11 2. A count charging any offense of homicide of a particular individual may be joined in
- an indictment or information and tried with one or more counts charging alternatively any other homicide or offense other than a homicide committed against that individual. The state shall not

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

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be required to make an election as to the alternative count on which it will proceed. This subsection in no way limits the right to try in the conjunctive, where they are properly joined under subsection 1 of this section, either separate offenses other than murder in the first degree or separate offenses of murder in the first degree committed against different individuals.

- 3. When a defendant has been charged and proven before trial to be a prior offender pursuant to chapter 558 so that the judge shall assess punishment and not a jury for an offense other than murder in the first degree, that offense may be tried and submitted to the trier together with any murder in the first degree charge with which it is lawfully joined. In such case the judge will assess punishment on any offense joined with a murder in the first degree charge according to law and, when the trier is a jury, it shall be instructed upon punishment on the charge of murder in the first degree in accordance with section 565.030.
- [4. When the state waives the death penalty for a murder first degree offense, that offense may be tried and submitted to the trier together with any other charge with which it is lawfully joined.]
- 565.006. 1. At any time before the commencement of the trial of a homicide offense, the defendant may, with the assent of the court, waive a trial by jury and agree to submit all issues in the case to the court, whose finding shall have the force and effect of a verdict of a jury. Such a waiver must include a waiver of a trial by jury of all issues and offenses charged in the case, including the punishment to be assessed and imposed if the defendant is found guilty.
- 2. No defendant who pleads guilty to a homicide offense or who is found guilty of a homicide offense after trial to the court without a jury shall be permitted a trial by jury on the issue of the punishment to be imposed, except by agreement of the state.
- 3. [If a defendant is found guilty of murder in the first degree after a jury trial in which the state has not waived the death penalty, the defendant may not waive a jury trial of the issue of the punishment to be imposed, except by agreement with the state and the court.
- 12 ——4.] Any waiver of a jury trial and agreement permitted by this section shall be entered in the court record.
- 565.020. 1. A person commits the offense of murder in the first degree if he or she knowingly causes the death of another person after deliberation upon the matter.
- 2. The offense of murder in the first degree is a class A felony, and, if a person is eighteen years of age or older at the time of the offense, the punishment shall be [either death or] imprisonment for life without eligibility for probation or parole, or release except by act of the governor. If a person has not reached his or her eighteenth birthday at the time of the commission of the offense, the punishment shall be as provided under section 565.033.
- 565.040. [1. In the event that the death penalty provided in this chapter is held to be unconstitutional,] Any person convicted of murder in the first degree [shall be] and sentenced

section 565.035.

by the court to **death prior to August 28, 2019, shall be sentenced by the court to** life imprisonment without eligibility for probation, parole, or release except by act of the governor[5 with the exception that when a specific aggravating circumstance found in a case is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for another reason, the supreme court of Missouri is further authorized to remand the case for resentencing or retrial of the punishment pursuant to subsection 5 of

2. In the event that any death sentence imposed pursuant to this chapter is held to be unconstitutional, the trial court which previously sentenced the defendant to death shall cause the defendant to be brought before the court and shall sentence the defendant to life imprisonment without eligibility for probation, parole, or release except by act of the governor, with the exception that when a specific aggravating circumstance found in a case is held to be inapplicable, unconstitutional or invalid for another reason, the supreme court of Missouri is further authorized to remand the case for retrial of the punishment pursuant to subsection 5 of section 565.035].

[546.680. When judgment of death is rendered by any court of competent jurisdiction, a warrant signed by the judge and attested by the clerk under the seal of the court must be drawn and delivered to the sheriff. It must state the conviction and judgment and appoint a day on which the judgment must be executed, which must not be less than thirty nor more than sixty days from the date of judgment, and must direct the sheriff to deliver the defendant, at a time specified in said order, not more than ten days from the date of judgment, to the chief administrative officer of a correctional facility of the department of corrections, for execution.]

[546.690. The judge of a court at which a conviction is had must, immediately after the conviction, transmit to the governor of the state, by mail or otherwise, a statement of the conviction and judgment.]

[546.700. Whenever, for any reason, any convict sentenced to the punishment of death shall not have been executed pursuant to such sentence, and the cause shall stand in full force, the supreme court, or the court of the county in which the conviction was had, on the application of the prosecuting attorney, shall issue a writ of habeas corpus to bring such convict before the court; or if he be at large, a warrant for his apprehension may be issued by such court, or any judge thereof.]

[546.710. Upon such convicted offender being brought before the court, they shall proceed to inquire into the facts, and if no legal reasons exist against the execution of sentence, such court shall issue a warrant to the director of the

department of corrections, for the execution of the prisoner at the time therein specified, which execution shall be obeyed by the director accordingly.]

[546.720. 1. The manner of inflicting the punishment of death shall be by the administration of lethal gas or by means of the administration of lethal injection. And for such purpose the director of the department of corrections is hereby authorized and directed to provide a suitable and efficient room or place, enclosed from public view, within the walls of a correctional facility of the department of corrections, and the necessary appliances for carrying into execution the death penalty by means of the administration of lethal gas or by means of the administration of lethal injection.

2. The director of the department of corrections shall select an execution team which shall consist of those persons who administer lethal gas or lethal chemicals and those persons, such as medical personnel, who provide direct support for the administration of lethal gas or lethal chemicals. The identities of members of the execution team, as defined in the execution protocol of the department of corrections, shall be kept confidential. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any portion of a record that could identify a person as being a current or former member of an execution team shall be privileged and shall not be subject to discovery, subpoena, or other means of legal compulsion for disclosure to any person or entity, the remainder of such record shall not be privileged or closed unless protected from disclosure by law. The section of an execution protocol that directly relates to the administration of lethal gas or lethal chemicals is an open record, the remainder of any execution protocol of the department of corrections is a closed record.

3. A person may not, without the approval of the director of the department of corrections, knowingly disclose the identity of a current or former member of an execution team or disclose a record knowing that it could identify a person as being a current or former member of an execution team. Any person whose identity is disclosed in violation of this section shall:

(1) Have a civil cause of action against a person who violates this section;

(b) Punitive damages on a showing of a willful violation of this section.

(2) Be entitled to recover from any such person:

(a) Actual damages; and

4. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, if a member of the execution team is licensed by a board or department, the licensing board or department shall not censure, reprimand, suspend, revoke, or take any other disciplinary action against the person's license because of his or her participation in a lawful execution. All members of the execution team are entitled to coverage under the state legal expense fund established by section 105.711 for conduct of such execution team member arising out of and performed in

connection with his or her official duties on behalf of the state or any agency of

the state, provided that moneys in this fund shall not be available for payment of claims under chapter 287.]

[546.730. A judgment of death must be executed within a correctional center of the department of corrections; and such execution shall be under the supervision and direction of the director of the department of corrections.]

[546.740. The chief administrative officer of the correctional center, or his duly appointed representative shall be present at the execution and the director of the department of corrections shall invite the presence of the attorney general of the state, and at least eight reputable citizens, to be selected by him; and he shall at the request of the defendant, permit such clergy or religious leaders, not exceeding two, as the defendant may name, and any person, other than another incarcerated offender, relatives or friends, not to exceed five, to be present at the execution, together with such peace officers as he may think expedient, to witness the execution; but no person under twenty-one years of age shall be allowed to witness the execution.]

[546.750. After the execution the chief administrative officer of the correctional facility shall make a return upon the death warrant to the court by which the judgment was rendered, showing the time, mode and manner in which it was executed.]

[546.800. If, after any female convict shall be sentenced to the punishment of death, the officer having charge of her person shall have reason to suspect that she is pregnant, he shall in like manner summon a jury of six persons, not less than three of whom shall be physicians, and shall give notice thereof to the prosecuting attorney of the county where such criminal proceedings originated, or to the circuit attorney of the city of St. Louis, if such criminal proceedings originated in that city, who shall attend, and the proceedings shall be had as provided.]

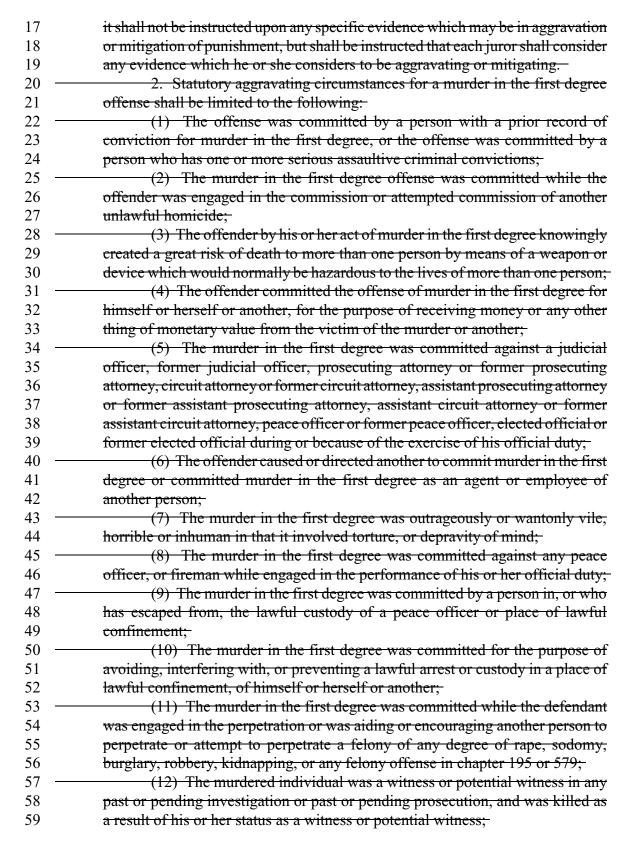
[546.810. The inquisition shall be signed by the jury and the officer in charge of such convict, and if it appear that such female convict is pregnant with child, her execution shall be suspended and the inquisition shall be transmitted to the governor.]

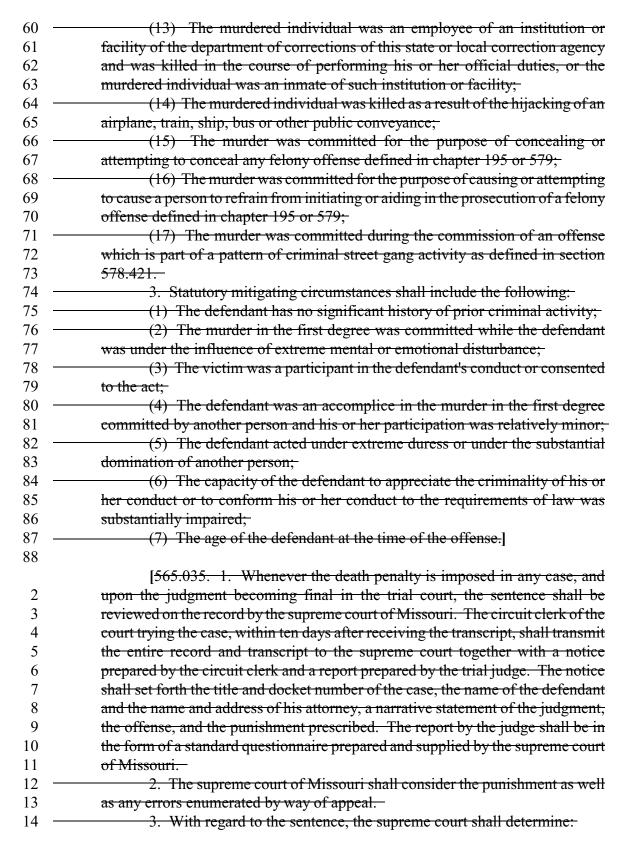
[546.820. Whenever the governor shall be satisfied that the cause of such suspension no longer exists, he shall issue his warrant, appointing a day for the execution of such convict, pursuant to her sentence; or he may, at his discretion, commute her punishment to imprisonment in the penitentiary for life.]

[565.030. 1. Where murder in the first degree is charged but not submitted or where the state waives the death penalty, the submission to the trier and all subsequent proceedings in the case shall proceed as in all other criminal cases.

- 2. Where murder in the first degree is submitted to the trier without a waiver of the death penalty, the trial shall proceed in two stages before the same trier. At the first stage the trier shall decide only whether the defendant is guilty or not guilty of any submitted offense. The issue of punishment shall not be submitted to the trier at the first stage. If an offense is charged other than murder in the first degree in a count together with a count of murder in the first degree, the trial judge shall assess punishment on any such offense according to law, after the defendant is found guilty of such offense and after he finds the defendant to be a prior offender pursuant to chapter 558.
- 3. If murder in the first degree is submitted and the death penalty was not waived but the trier finds the defendant guilty of a lesser homicide, a second stage of the trial shall proceed as in all other criminal cases. The attorneys may then argue as in other criminal cases the issue of punishment, after which the trier shall assess and declare the punishment as in all other criminal cases.
- 4. If the trier at the first stage of a trial where the death penalty was not waived finds the defendant guilty of murder in the first degree, a second stage of the trial shall proceed at which the only issue shall be the punishment to be assessed and declared. Evidence in aggravation and mitigation of punishment, including but not limited to evidence supporting any of the aggravating or mitigating circumstances listed in subsection 2 or 3 of section 565.032, may be presented subject to the rules of evidence at criminal trials. Such evidence may include, within the discretion of the court, evidence concerning the murder victim and the impact of the offense upon the family of the victim and others. Rebuttal and surrebuttal evidence may be presented. The state shall be the first to proceed. If the trier is a jury it shall be instructed on the law. The attorneys may then argue the issue of punishment to the jury, and the state shall have the right to open and close the argument. The trier shall assess and declare the punishment at life imprisonment without eligibility for probation, parole, or release except by act of the governor:
- (1) If the trier finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant is intellectually disabled; or
- (2) If the trier does not find beyond a reasonable doubt at least one of the statutory aggravating circumstances set out in subsection 2 of section 565.032; or
- (3) If the trier concludes that there is evidence in mitigation of punishment, including but not limited to evidence supporting the statutory mitigating circumstances listed in subsection 3 of section 565.032, which is sufficient to outweigh the evidence in aggravation of punishment found by the trier; or

44 (4) If the trier decides under all of the circumstances not to assess and 45 declare the punishment at death. If the trier is a jury it shall be so instructed. 46 47 If the trier assesses and declares the punishment at death it shall, in its findings or verdict, set out in writing the aggravating circumstance or circumstances listed 48 in subsection 2 of section 565.032 which it found beyond a reasonable doubt. If 49 the trier is a jury it shall be instructed before the case is submitted that if it is 50 unable to decide or agree upon the punishment the court shall assess and declare 51 the punishment at life imprisonment without eligibility for probation, parole, or 52 53 release except by act of the governor or death. The court shall follow the same 54 procedure as set out in this section whenever it is required to determine 55 punishment for murder in the first degree. 56 5. Upon written agreement of the parties and with leave of the court, the 57 issue of the defendant's intellectual disability may be taken up by the court and decided prior to trial without prejudicing the defendant's right to have the issue 58 59 submitted to the trier of fact as provided in subsection 4 of this section. 6. As used in this section, the terms "intellectual disability" or 60 "intellectually disabled" refer to a condition involving substantial limitations in 61 62 general functioning characterized by significantly subaverage intellectual functioning with continual extensive related deficits and limitations in two or 63 more adaptive behaviors such as communication, self-care, home living, social 64 65 skills, community use, self-direction, health and safety, functional academics, leisure and work, which conditions are manifested and documented before 66 67 eighteen years of age. 68 7. The provisions of this section shall only govern offenses committed on or after August 28, 2001.] 69 70 [565.032. 1. In all cases of murder in the first degree for which the death penalty is authorized, the judge in a jury-waived trial shall consider, or shall 2 3 include in his or her instructions to the jury for it to consider: 4 (1) Whether a statutory aggravating circumstance or circumstances 5 enumerated in subsection 2 of this section is established by the evidence beyond 6 a reasonable doubt; and 7 (2) If a statutory aggravating circumstance or circumstances is proven 8 beyond a reasonable doubt, whether the evidence as a whole justifies a sentence 9 of death or a sentence of life imprisonment without eligibility for probation, 10 parole, or release except by act of the governor. 11 12 In determining the issues enumerated in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this 13 subsection, the trier shall consider all evidence which it finds to be in aggravation 14 or mitigation of punishment, including evidence received during the first stage 15 of the trial and evidence supporting any of the statutory aggravating or mitigating circumstances set out in subsections 2 and 3 of this section. If the trier is a jury, 16





15 (1) Whether the sentence of death was imposed under the influence of 16 passion, prejudice, or any other arbitrary factor; and 17 (2) Whether the evidence supports the jury's or judge's finding of a 18 statutory aggravating circumstance as enumerated in subsection 2 of section 19 565.032 and any other circumstance found; (3) Whether the sentence of death is excessive or disproportionate to the 20 21 penalty imposed in similar cases, considering both the offense, the strength of the 22 evidence and the defendant. 23 4. Both the defendant and the state shall have the right to submit briefs 24 within the time provided by the supreme court, and to present oral argument to 25 the supreme court. 5. The supreme court shall include in its decision a reference to those 26 27 similar cases which it took into consideration. In addition to its authority 28 regarding correction of errors, the supreme court, with regard to review of death 29 sentences, shall be authorized to: 30 (1) Affirm the sentence of death; or (2) Set the sentence aside and resentence the defendant to life 31 imprisonment without eligibility for probation, parole, or release except by act 32 33 of the governor; or 34 (3) Set the sentence aside and remand the case for retrial of the punishment hearing. A new jury shall be selected or a jury may be waived by 35 agreement of both parties and then the punishment trial shall proceed in 36 accordance with this chapter, with the exception that the evidence of the guilty 37 38 verdict shall be admissible in the new trial together with the official transcript of 39 any testimony and evidence properly admitted in each stage of the original trial where relevant to determine punishment. 40 6. There shall be an assistant to the supreme court, who shall be an 41 42 attorney appointed by the supreme court and who shall serve at the pleasure of the court. The court shall accumulate the records of all cases in which the 43 44 sentence of death or life imprisonment without probation or parole was imposed after May 26, 1977, or such earlier date as the court may deem appropriate. The 45 46 assistant shall provide the court with whatever extracted information the court 47 desires with respect thereto, including but not limited to a synopsis or brief of the 48 facts in the record concerning the offense and the defendant. The court shall be 49 authorized to employ an appropriate staff, within the limits of appropriations 50 made for that purpose, and such methods to compile such data as are deemed by 51 the supreme court to be appropriate and relevant to the statutory questions concerning the validity of the sentence. The office of the assistant to the supreme 52 court shall be attached to the office of the clerk of the supreme court for 53 54 administrative purposes. 55 7. In addition to the mandatory sentence review, there shall be a right of 56 direct appeal of the conviction to the supreme court of Missouri. This right of

appeal may be waived by the defendant. If an appeal is taken, the appeal and the

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58	sentence review shall be consolidated for consideration. The court shall render
59	its decision on legal errors enumerated, the factual substantiation of the verdict,
60	and the validity of the sentence.]

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