

HB 1208 -- DEATH PENALTY

SPONSOR: Hurst

Currently, the punishment for 1st degree murder is either life imprisonment without eligibility for parole or death. This bill repeals the punishment of death for 1st degree murder. Additionally, the bill provides that any person sentenced to death prior to August 28, 2019, must be sentenced to life without parole.

This bill creates the "Cold Case Investigation Revolving Fund," within the State Treasury and funded by appropriation of the General Assembly, gifts, bequests, public or private donations, and any savings associated with the repeal of the death penalty. The State Treasurer shall be the custodian of the fund, which shall be administered by the Department of Public Safety.

This bill is similar to SB 32 (2019).