

SENATE BILL 5173

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senators Saling, Rasmussen, Metcalf, Stratton, Amondson, Anderson, Bauer, Barr, McCaslin, L. Smith, Cantu, Thorsness, Patterson, Vognild, Craswell, McDonald and Matson.

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

1 AN ACT Relating to the death penalty for certain rapists; adding a
2 new section to chapter 10.95 RCW; creating a new section; and
3 prescribing penalties.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that the crimes
6 of rape in the first degree and rape of a child in the first degree are
7 among the most offensive and outrageous crimes in our society. The
8 emotional damage to the victims of these crimes, and to the families
9 and friends of the victims, is not only of the most severe nature, but
10 is also everlasting.

11 The legislature finds that persons who commit these offenses have
12 a high probability of reoffending and that public safety will best be
13 served by imposing the death penalty for second offenders.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 10.95 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 Every person who commits a rape and is eighteen years of age or
4 older, upon a second conviction, after the person attains age eighteen,
5 of rape in the first degree or rape of a child in the first degree,
6 shall be sentenced to the death penalty.