

HB 2142 -- DEATH PENALTY

SPONSOR: Higdon

This bill specifies that a jury in a death penalty case must be instructed before the case is submitted that if a majority of the jurors are unable to decide or agree upon the punishment, the court must assess and declare the punishment at life imprisonment without eligibility for probation, parole, or release except by act of the Governor or death. Currently, the jury must be instructed before the case is submitted that if it is unable to decide or agree upon the punishment, the court must assess and declare that punishment.