

Sec. 1. Section 18, chapter 138, Laws of 1981 and RCW 10.95.180 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The punishment of death shall be supervised by the superintendent of the penitentiary and shall be inflicted either by hanging by the neck (~~((until death is pronounced by a licensed physician))~~) or, at the election of the defendant, by (~~((continuous, intravenous administration of a lethal dose of sodium thiopental until death is pronounced by a licensed physician))~~) intravenous injection of a substance or substances in a lethal quantity sufficient to cause death and until the defendant is dead. In any case, death shall be pronounced by a licensed physician.

(2) All executions, for both men and women, shall be carried out within the walls of the state penitentiary.

Passed the Senate March 8, 1986.

Passed the House March 5, 1986.

Approved by the Governor April 1, 1986.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 1, 1986.

CHAPTER 195

[Senate Bill No. 4708]

COMPETENCY OF WITNESSES—AGE

AN ACT Relating to competency of witnesses; and amending RCW 5.60.020 and 5.60.050.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 289, page 186, Laws of 1854 as last amended by section 388, Code of 1881 and RCW 5.60.020 are each amended to read as follows:

Every person of sound mind (~~((suitable age))~~) and discretion, except as hereinafter provided, may be a witness in any action, or proceeding.

Sec. 2. Section 293, page 186, Laws of 1854 as last amended by section 391, Code of 1881 and RCW 5.60.050 are each amended to read as follows:

The following persons shall not be competent to testify:

(1) Those who are of unsound mind, or intoxicated at the time of their production for examination, and

(2) (~~((Children under ten years of age;))~~) Those who appear incapable of receiving just impressions of the facts, respecting which they are examined, or of relating them truly.

Passed the Senate February 11, 1986.

Passed the House March 7, 1986.

Approved by the Governor April 1, 1986.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 1, 1986.