

AN ACT relating to the abolition of the death penalty.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 532 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, capital punishment by means of the death penalty is abolished as of the effective date of this Act.

(2) The court having jurisdiction over a person sentenced to death before the effective date of this Act and for whom the death sentence has not been executed shall sentence that person to imprisonment for life without benefit of probation or parole.

➔Section 2. KRS 422.285 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, a person who was convicted of a capital offense, a Class A felony, a Class B felony, or any offense designated a violent offense under KRS 439.3401 and who meets the requirements of this section may at any time request the forensic deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) testing and analysis of any evidence that is in the possession or control of the court or Commonwealth, that is related to the investigation or prosecution that resulted in the judgment of conviction and that may contain biological evidence.
- (b) This subsection shall not apply to offenses under KRS Chapter 218A, unless the offense was accompanied by another offense outside of that chapter for which testing is authorized by paragraph (a) of this subsection.
- (2) Upon receipt of a request under this section accompanied by a supporting affidavit containing sufficient factual averments to support the request from a person who meets the requirements of subsection (5)(f) of this section at the time the request is made for an offense to which the DNA relates, the court shall:
  - (a) If the petitioner is not represented by counsel, appoint the Department for

Public Advocacy to represent the petitioner for purposes of the request, pursuant to KRS 31.110(2)(c); or

- (b) If the petitioner is represented by counsel or waives appointment of counsel in writing or if the Department for Public Advocacy has previously withdrawn from representation of the petitioner for purposes of the request, require the petitioner to deposit an amount certain with the court sufficient to cover the reasonable costs of the testing being requested.
- (3) Counsel representing the petitioner shall be provided a reasonable opportunity to investigate the petitioner's request and shall be permitted to supplement the request. Pursuant to KRS 31.110(2)(c), the petitioner shall have no further right to counsel provided by the Department for Public Advocacy on the matter if counsel determines that it is not a proceeding that a reasonable person with adequate means would be willing to bring at his or her own expense. If the Department for Public Advocacy moves to withdraw as counsel for petitioner and the court grants the motion, the court shall proceed as directed under subsection (2)(b) of this section.
- (4) Upon receipt of the deposit required under subsection (2)(b) of this section or a motion from counsel provided by the Department for Public Advocacy to proceed, the court shall provide notice to the prosecutor and an opportunity to respond to the petitioner's request.
- (5) After due consideration of the request and any supplements and responses thereto, the court shall order DNA testing and analysis if the court finds that all of the following apply:
  - (a) A reasonable probability exists that the petitioner would not have been prosecuted or convicted if exculpatory results had been obtained through DNA testing and analysis;
  - (b) The evidence is still in existence and is in a condition that allows DNA testing and analysis to be conducted;

- (c) The evidence was not previously subjected to DNA testing and analysis or was not subjected to the testing and analysis that is now requested and may resolve an issue not previously resolved by the previous testing and analysis;
  - (d) Except for a petitioner sentenced to death *prior to the effective date of this Act*, the petitioner was convicted of the offense after a trial or after entering an Alford plea;
  - (e) Except for a petitioner sentenced to death *prior to the effective date of this Act*, the testing is not sought for touch DNA, meaning casual or limited contact DNA; and
  - (f) The petitioner is still incarcerated or on probation, parole, or other form of correctional supervision, monitoring, or registration for the offense to which the DNA relates.
- (6) After due consideration of the request and any supplements and responses thereto, the court may order DNA testing and analysis if the court finds that all of the following apply:
- (a) A reasonable probability exists that either:
    - 1. The petitioner's verdict or sentence would have been more favorable if the results of DNA testing and analysis had been available at the trial leading to the judgment of conviction; or
    - 2. DNA testing and analysis will produce exculpatory evidence;
  - (b) The evidence is still in existence and is in a condition that allows DNA testing and analysis to be conducted;
  - (c) The evidence was not previously subject to DNA testing and analysis or was not subjected to the testing and analysis that is now requested and that may resolve an issue not previously resolved by the previous testing and analysis;
  - (d) Except for a petitioner sentenced to death *prior to the effective date of this Act*, the petitioner was convicted of the offense after a trial or after entering an

Alford plea;

- (e) Except for a petitioner sentenced to death *prior to the effective date of this Act*, the testing is not sought for touch DNA, meaning casual or limited contact DNA; and
  - (f) The petitioner is still incarcerated or on probation, parole, or other form of correctional supervision, monitoring, or registration for the offense to which the DNA relates.
- (7) The provisions of KRS 17.176 to the contrary notwithstanding, the petitioner shall pay the costs of all testing and analysis ordered under this section. If the court determines that the petitioner is a needy person using the standards set out in KRS 31.120 and the Department for Public Advocacy so moves, the court shall treat the costs of testing and analysis as a direct expense of the defense for the purposes of authorizing payment under KRS 31.185.
- (8) If the prosecutor or defense counsel has previously subjected evidence to DNA testing and analysis, the court shall order the prosecutor or defense counsel to provide all the parties and the court with access to the laboratory reports that were prepared in connection with the testing and analysis, including underlying data and laboratory notes. If the court orders DNA testing and analysis pursuant to this section, the court shall order the production of any laboratory reports that are prepared in connection with the testing and analysis and may order the production of any underlying data and laboratory notes.
- (9) If a petition is filed pursuant to this section, the court shall order the state to preserve during the pendency of the proceeding all evidence in the state's possession or control that could be subjected to DNA testing and analysis. The state shall prepare an inventory of the evidence and shall submit a copy of the inventory to the defense and the court. If the evidence is intentionally destroyed after the court orders its preservation, the court may impose appropriate sanctions, including

criminal contempt.

- (10) The court may make any other orders that the court deems appropriate, including designating any of the following:
  - (a) The preservation of some of the sample for replicating the testing and analysis; and
  - (b) Elimination samples from third parties.
- (11) If the results of the DNA testing and analysis are not favorable to the petitioner, the court shall dismiss the petition. The court may make further orders as it deems appropriate, including any of the following:
  - (a) Notifying the Department of Corrections and the Parole Board;
  - (b) Requesting that the petitioner's sample be added to the Department of Kentucky State Police database; and
  - (c) Providing notification to the victim or family of the victim.
- (12) Notwithstanding any other provision of law that would bar a hearing as untimely, if the results of the DNA testing and analysis are favorable to the petitioner, the court shall order a hearing and make any further orders that are required pursuant to this section or the Kentucky Rules of Criminal Procedure.

➔Section 3. KRS 532.030 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) When a person is convicted of a capital offense, he or she shall have his or her punishment fixed ~~at death, or~~ at a term of imprisonment for life without benefit of probation or parole, or at a term of imprisonment for life without benefit of probation or parole until he or she has served a minimum of twenty-five (25) years of his or her sentence, or to a sentence of life, or to a term of not less than twenty (20) years nor more than fifty (50) years.
- (2) When a person is convicted of a Class A felony, he or she shall have his or her punishment fixed at imprisonment in accordance with KRS 532.060.
- (3) When a person is convicted of an offense other than a capital offense or Class A

felony, he *or she* shall have his *or her* punishment fixed at:

- (a) A term of imprisonment authorized by this chapter; or
- (b) A fine authorized by KRS Chapter 534; or
- (c) Both imprisonment and a fine unless precluded by the provisions of KRS Chapter 534.

~~[(4) In all cases in which the death penalty may be authorized the judge shall instruct the jury in accordance with subsection (1) of this section. The instructions shall state, subject to the aggravating and mitigating limitations and requirements of KRS 532.025, that the jury may recommend upon a conviction for a capital offense a sentence of death, or at a term of imprisonment for life without benefit of probation or parole, or a term of imprisonment for life without benefit of probation or parole until the defendant has served a minimum of twenty five (25) years of his sentence, or a sentence of life, or to a term of not less than twenty (20) years nor more than fifty (50) years.]~~

➔Section 4. KRS 532.050 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) No court shall impose sentence for conviction of a felony~~[, other than a capital offense,]~~ without first ordering a presentence investigation after conviction and giving due consideration to a written report of the investigation. The presentence investigation report shall not be waived; however, the completion of the presentence investigation report may be delayed until after sentencing upon the written request of the defendant if the defendant is in custody.
- (2) The report shall be prepared and presented by a probation officer and shall include:
  - (a) The results of the defendant's risk and needs assessment;
  - (b) An analysis of the defendant's history of delinquency or criminality, physical and mental condition, family situation and background, economic status, education, occupation, and personal habits;
  - (c) A preliminary calculation of the credit allowed the defendant for time spent in

custody prior to the commencement of a sentence under KRS 532.120; and

- (d) Any other matters that the court directs to be included.
- (3) Before imposing sentence for a felony conviction, the court may order the defendant to submit to psychiatric observation and examination for a period not exceeding sixty (60) days. The defendant may be remanded for this purpose to any available clinic or mental hospital or the court may appoint a qualified psychiatrist to make the examination.
- (4) If the defendant has been convicted of a sex crime, as defined in KRS 17.500, prior to determining the sentence or prior to final sentencing for youthful offenders, the court shall order a comprehensive sex offender presentence evaluation of the defendant to be conducted by an approved provider, as defined in KRS 17.500, the Department of Corrections, or the Department of Juvenile Justice if the defendant is a youthful offender. The comprehensive sex offender presentence evaluation shall provide to the court a recommendation related to the risk of a repeat offense by the defendant and the defendant's amenability to treatment and shall be considered by the court in determining the appropriate sentence. A copy of the comprehensive sex offender presentence evaluation shall be furnished to the court, the Commonwealth's attorney, and to counsel for the defendant. If the defendant is eligible and the court suspends the sentence and places the defendant on probation or conditional discharge, the provisions of KRS 532.045(3) to (8) shall apply. All communications relative to the comprehensive sex offender presentence evaluation and treatment of the sex offender shall fall under the provisions of KRS 197.440 and shall not be made a part of the court record subject to review in appellate proceedings. The defendant shall pay for any comprehensive sex offender presentence evaluation or treatment required pursuant to this section up to the defendant's ability to pay but no more than the actual cost of the comprehensive sex offender presentence evaluation or treatment.

- (5) The presentence investigation report shall identify the counseling treatment, educational, and rehabilitation needs of the defendant and identify community-based, ~~and~~ correctional-based, and institutional-based programs and resources available to meet those needs or shall identify the lack of programs and resources to meet those needs.
- (6) Before imposing sentence, the court shall advise the defendant or his or her counsel of the factual contents and conclusions of any presentence investigation or psychiatric examinations and afford a fair opportunity and a reasonable period of time, if the defendant so requests, to controvert them. The court shall provide the defendant's counsel a copy of the presentence investigation report. It shall not be necessary to disclose the sources of confidential information.

➔Section 5. KRS 532.100 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) When an indeterminate term of imprisonment is imposed, the court shall commit the defendant to the custody of the Department of Corrections for the term of his or her sentence and until released in accordance with the law.
- (2) When a definite term of imprisonment is imposed, the court shall commit the defendant to the county or city correctional institution or to a regional correctional institution for the term of his or her sentence and until released in accordance with the law.
- ~~(3) When a sentence of death is imposed, the court shall commit the defendant to the custody of the Department of Corrections with directions that the sentence be carried out according to law.~~
- ~~(4)~~ (a) The provisions of KRS 500.080(5) notwithstanding, if a Class D felon is sentenced to an indeterminate term of imprisonment of five (5) years or less, he or she shall serve that term in a county jail in a county in which the fiscal court has agreed to house state prisoners; except that, when an indeterminate sentence of two (2) years or more is imposed on a Class D felon convicted of



a sexual offense enumerated in KRS 197.410(1), or a crime under KRS 17.510(11) or (12), the sentence shall be served in a state institution. Counties choosing not to comply with the provisions of this paragraph shall be granted a waiver by the commissioner of the Department of Corrections.

- (b) The provisions of KRS 500.080(5) notwithstanding, a Class D felon who received a sentence of more than five (5) years for nonviolent, nonsexual offenses, but who currently has less than five (5) years remaining to be served, may serve the remainder of his or her term in a county jail in a county in which the fiscal court has agreed to house state prisoners.
- (c)
  - 1. The provisions of KRS 500.080(5) notwithstanding, and except as provided in subparagraph 2. of this paragraph, a Class C or D felon with a sentence of more than five (5) years who is classified by the Department of Corrections as community custody shall serve that term in a county jail in a county in which the fiscal court has agreed to house state prisoners if:
    - a. Beds are available in the county jail;
    - b. State facilities are at capacity; and
    - c. Halfway house beds are being utilized at the contract level as of July 15, 2000.
  - 2. When an indeterminate sentence of two (2) years or more is imposed on a felon convicted of a sex crime, as defined in KRS 17.500, or any similar offense in another jurisdiction, the sentence shall be served in a state institution.
  - 3. Counties choosing not to comply with the provisions of this paragraph shall be granted a waiver by the commissioner of the Department of Corrections.
- (d) Any jail that houses state inmates under this subsection shall offer programs

as recommended by the Jail Standards Commission. The Department of Corrections shall adopt the recommendations of the Jail Standards Commission and promulgate administrative regulations establishing required programs for a jail that houses state inmates under this subsection.

~~(4)~~~~(5)~~ The jailer of a county in which a Class D felon or a Class C felon is incarcerated may request the commissioner of the Department of Corrections to incarcerate the felon in a state corrections institution if the jailer has reasons to believe that the felon is an escape risk, a danger to himself, herself, or other inmates, an extreme security risk, or needs protective custody beyond that which can be provided in a county jail. The commissioner of the Department of Corrections shall evaluate the request and transfer the inmate if the commissioner~~he~~ deems it necessary. If the commissioner refuses to accept the felon inmate, and the Circuit Judge of the county that has jurisdiction of the offense charged is of the opinion that the felon cannot be safely kept in a county jail, the Circuit Judge, with the consent of the Governor, may order the felon transferred to the custody of the Department of Corrections.

~~(5)~~~~(6)~~ Class D felons and Class C felons serving their time in a local jail shall be considered state prisoners, and the Department of Corrections shall pay the jail in which the prisoner is incarcerated a per diem amount determined according to KRS 431.215(2). For other state prisoners and parole violator prisoners, the per diem payments shall also begin on the date prescribed in KRS 431.215(2).

~~(6)~~~~(7)~~ State prisoners, excluding the Class D felons and Class C felons qualifying to serve time in county jails, shall be transferred to the state institution within forty-five (45) days of final sentencing.

➔Section 6. KRS 533.010 is amended to read as follows:

(1) Any person who has been convicted of a crime and who has not been sentenced to *imprisonment for life without parole or life without parole for twenty-five (25)*

years~~[death]~~ may be sentenced to probation, probation with an alternative sentencing plan, or conditional discharge as provided in this chapter.

- (2) Before imposition of a sentence of imprisonment, the court shall consider probation, probation with an alternative sentencing plan, or conditional discharge. Unless the defendant is a violent felon as defined in KRS 439.3401 or a statute prohibits probation, shock probation, or conditional discharge, after due consideration of the defendant's risk and needs assessment, nature and circumstances of the crime, and the history, character, and condition of the defendant, probation or conditional discharge shall be granted, unless the court is of the opinion that imprisonment is necessary for protection of the public because:
  - (a) There is substantial risk that during a period of probation or conditional discharge the defendant will commit another crime;
  - (b) The defendant is in need of correctional treatment that can be provided most effectively by his or her commitment to a correctional institution; or
  - (c) A disposition under this chapter will unduly depreciate the seriousness of the defendant's crime.
- (3) In the event the court determines that probation is not appropriate after due consideration of the defendant's risk and needs assessment, nature and circumstances of the crime, and the history, character, and condition of the defendant, probation with an alternative sentencing plan shall be granted unless the court is of the opinion that imprisonment is necessary for the protection of the public because:
  - (a) There is a likelihood that during a period of probation with an alternative sentencing plan or conditional discharge the defendant will commit a Class D or Class C felony or a substantial risk that the defendant will commit a Class B or Class A felony;
  - (b) The defendant is in need of correctional treatment that can be provided most

- effectively by commitment to a correctional institution; or
- (c) A disposition under this chapter will unduly depreciate the seriousness of the defendant's crime.
- (4) The court shall not determine that there is a likelihood that the defendant will commit a Class C or Class D felony based upon the defendant's risk and needs assessment and the fact that:
- (a) The defendant has never been convicted of, pled guilty to, or entered an Alford plea to a felony offense;
  - (b) If convicted of, having pled guilty to, or entered an Alford plea to a felony offense, the defendant successfully completed probation more than ten (10) years immediately prior to the date of the commission of the felony for which the defendant is now being sentenced and has had no intervening convictions, pleas of guilty, or Alford pleas to any criminal offense during that period; or
  - (c) The defendant has been released from incarceration for the commission of a felony offense more than ten (10) years immediately prior to the date of the commission of the felony for which the defendant is now being sentenced and has had no intervening convictions, pleas of guilty, or Alford pleas to any criminal offense during that period.
- (5) In making a determination under subsection (4) of this section, the court may determine that the greater weight of the evidence indicates that there is a likelihood that the defendant will commit a Class C or Class D felony.
- (6) Upon initial sentencing of a defendant or upon modification or revocation of probation, when the court deems it in the best interest of the public and the defendant, the court may order probation with the defendant to serve one (1) of the following alternative sentences:
- (a) To a halfway house for no more than twelve (12) months;
  - (b) To home incarceration with or without work release for no more than twelve

- (12) months;
- (c) To jail for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months with or without work release, community service and other programs as required by the court;
  - (d) To a residential treatment program for the abuse of alcohol or controlled substances; or
  - (e) To any other specified counseling program, rehabilitation or treatment program, or facility.
- (7) If during the term of the alternative sentence the defendant fails to adhere to and complete the conditions of the alternative sentence, the court may modify the terms of the alternative sentence or may modify or revoke probation and alternative sentence and commit the defendant to an institution.
- (8) In addition to those conditions that the court may impose, the conditions of alternative sentence shall include the following and, if the court determines that the defendant cannot comply with them, then they shall not be made available:
- (a) A defendant sentenced to a halfway house shall:
    - 1. Be working or pursuing his or her education or be enrolled in a full-time treatment program;
    - 2. Pay restitution during the term of probation; and
    - 3. Have no contact with the victim of the defendant's crime;
  - (b) A defendant sentenced to home incarceration shall:
    - 1. Be employed by another person or self-employed at the time of sentencing to home incarceration and continue the employment throughout the period of home incarceration, unless the court determines that there is a compelling reason to allow home incarceration while the defendant is unemployed;
    - 2. Pay restitution during the term of home incarceration;
    - 3. Enter a treatment program, if appropriate;

4. Pay all or some portion of the cost of home incarceration as determined by the court;
  5. Comply with other conditions as specified; and
  6. Have no contact with the victim of the defendant's crime;
- (c) A defendant sentenced to jail with community service shall:
1. Pay restitution during all or some part of the defendant's term of probation; and
  2. Have no contact with the victim of the defendant's crime; or
- (d) A defendant sentenced to a residential treatment program for drug and alcohol abuse shall:
1. Undergo mandatory drug screening during term of probation;
  2. Be subject to active, supervised probation for a term of five (5) years;
  3. Undergo aftercare as required by the treatment program;
  4. Pay restitution during the term of probation; and
  5. Have no contact with the victim of the defendant's crime.
- (9) When the court deems it in the best interest of the defendant and the public, the court may order the person to work at community service related projects under the terms and conditions specified in KRS 533.070. Work at community service related projects shall be considered as a form of conditional discharge.
- (10) Probation with alternative sentence shall not be available as set out in KRS 532.045 and 533.060, except as provided in KRS 533.030(6).
- (11) The court may utilize a community corrections program authorized or funded under KRS Chapter 196 to provide services to any person released under this section.
- (12) When the court deems it in the best interest of the defendant and the public, the court may order the defendant to placement for probation monitoring by a private agency. The private agency shall report to the court on the defendant's compliance with his or her terms of probation or conditional discharge. The defendant shall be

responsible for any reasonable charges which the private agency charges.

- (13) The jailer in each county incarcerating Class C or D felons may deny work release privileges to any defendant for violating standards of discipline or other jail regulations. The jailer shall report the action taken and the details of the violation on which the action was based to the court of jurisdiction within five (5) days of the violation.
- (14) The Department of Corrections shall, by administrative regulation, develop written criteria for work release privileges granted under this section.
- (15) Reimbursement of incarceration costs shall be paid directly to the jailer in the amount specified by written order of the court. Incarceration costs owed to the Department of Corrections shall be paid through the circuit clerk.
- (16) The court shall enter into the record written findings of fact and conclusions of law when considering implementation of any sentence under this section.

➔Section 7. KRS 640.040 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) No youthful offender who has been convicted of a capital offense ~~[who was under the age of sixteen (16) years at the time of the commission of the offense shall be sentenced to capital punishment. A youthful offender may be sentenced to capital punishment if he was sixteen (16) years of age or older at the time of the commission of the offense. A youthful offender convicted of a capital offense regardless of age may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment appropriate for one who has committed a Class A felony and ]~~may be sentenced to life imprisonment without benefit of parole~~[ for twenty five (25) years]~~.
- (2) No youthful offender shall be subject to persistent felony offender sentencing under the provisions of KRS 532.080 for offenses committed before the age of eighteen (18) years.
- (3) No youthful offender shall be subject to limitations on probation, parole or conditional discharge as provided for in KRS 533.060.

(4) Any youthful offender convicted of a misdemeanor or any felony offense which would exempt him or her from KRS 635.020(2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), or (8) shall be disposed of by the Circuit Court in accordance with the provisions of KRS 635.060.

➔Section 8. The following KRS sections are repealed:

431.213 Definitions for KRS 431.213, 431.2135, and 431.240.

431.2135 Procedure for challenging condemned person's sanity.

431.218 Date of execution of condemned -- Copy of mandate to proper officer.

431.220 Execution of death sentence.

431.223 Method of execution in event of unconstitutionality of KRS 431.220.

431.224 Retroactive applicability.

431.240 Time of execution -- Governor to fix time in case of insanity, pregnancy, or escape -- Administrative hearings -- Transfer to forensic psychiatric facility in case of insanity.

431.250 Persons who may attend executions.

431.260 Warden's return on judgment.

431.270 Delivery or burial of body.

507A.060 Death sentence prohibited.

532.025 Presentence hearings -- Use of juvenile court records -- Aggravating or mitigating circumstances -- Instruction to jury.

532.075 Review of death sentence by Supreme Court.

532.130 Definitions for KRS 532.135 and 532.140.

532.135 Determination by court that defendant has a serious intellectual disability.

532.140 Offender with a serious intellectual disability not subject to execution -- Authorized sentences.

532.300 Prohibition against death sentence being sought or given on the basis of race -- Procedures for dealing with claims.

532.305 Application of KRS 532.300.



532.309 Short title for KRS 532.300 to 532.309.