



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

**Proposed Bill No. 1027**

LCO No. 1558

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:

SEN. DEBICELLA, 21st Dist.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEATH PENALTY.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 That section 53a-46a of the general statutes be amended to provide
- 2 that in determining the existence of any mitigating factor, the court or
- 3 jury shall place more weight on mitigating factors concerning the
- 4 defendant's character and the nature and circumstances of the crime
- 5 and less weight on mitigating factors concerning the defendant's
- 6 history or background, and provide that the only specific bars on the
- 7 imposition of the death penalty shall be if the defendant was under
- 8 eighteen years of age or was a person with mental retardation at the
- 9 time of the offense.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To strengthen the death penalty by giving less weight to mitigating factors concerning the history or background of the defendant and by deleting some of the specific circumstances that absolutely bar imposition of the death penalty.