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HOUSE BILL 342

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Bengie Regensberg

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE PUNISHMENT OF DEATH; PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL  
MANNERS BY WHICH THE PUNISHMENT OF DEATH IS INFLICTED;  
PERMITTING THE DEFENDANT TO CHOOSE THE MANNER; AMENDING A  
SECTION OF THE NMSA 1978.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 31-14-11 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1955,  
Chapter 127, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"31-14-11. PUNISHMENT OF DEATH- -HOW INFLICTED. - -

A. The manner of inflicting punishment of death  
shall be by:

(1) administration of a continuous,  
intravenous injection of a lethal quantity of an ultra-short-  
acting barbiturate in combination with a chemical paralytic  
agent;

underscored material = new  
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- (2) hanging;
- (3) firing squad;
- (4) lethal gas; or
- (5) electrocution.

B. The defendant may, within sixty days after being delivered to the warden of the state penitentiary at Santa Fe, select the manner by which his punishment of death shall be inflicted. If the defendant fails to select the manner of death, the punishment of death shall be inflicted by lethal injection as described in Paragraph (1) of Subsection A of this section. "