Bill No. CS/HB 555 (2023)

Amendment No. 1

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COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE	ACTION
ADOPTED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)
OTHER	

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Judiciary Committee Representative Jacques offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove lines 58-161 and insert:

6 2. Death, and at least eight jurors recommend a sentence 7 of death, the court, after considering each aggravating factor 8 found by the jury and all mitigating circumstances, may impose a 9 sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole 10 or a sentence of death. The court may consider only an aggravating factor that was unanimously found to exist by the 11 jury. The court may impose a sentence of death only if the jury 12 unanimously finds at least one aggravating factor beyond a 13 14 reasonable doubt.

(b) If the defendant waived his or her right to a sentencing proceeding by a jury, the court, after considering 295837 - h0555-line58.docx

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17 all aggravating factors and mitigating circumstances, may impose 18 a sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of 19 parole or a sentence of death. The court may impose a sentence 20 of death only if the court finds that at least one aggravating 21 factor has been proven to exist beyond a reasonable doubt.

22 (4) ORDER OF THE COURT IN SUPPORT OF SENTENCE OF LIFE 23 IMPRISONMENT OR DEATH.-In each case in which the court imposes a sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole 24 25 or death, the court shall, considering the records of the trial 26 and the sentencing proceedings, enter a written order addressing the appravating factors set forth in subsection (6) found to 27 exist, the mitigating circumstances in subsection (7) reasonably 28 29 established by the evidence, whether there are sufficient 30 aggravating factors to warrant the death penalty, and whether 31 the appravating factors outweigh the mitigating circumstances 32 reasonably established by the evidence. The court must include 33 in its written order the reasons for not accepting the jury's recommended sentence, if applicable. If the court does not issue 34 35 its order requiring the death sentence within 30 days after the 36 rendition of the judgment and sentence, the court shall impose a 37 sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole in accordance with s. 775.082. 38

39 Section 2. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section 40 921.142, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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921.142 Sentence of death or life imprisonment for capital
drug trafficking felonies; further proceedings to determine
sentence.-

44 (3) FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDED SENTENCE BY THE JURY.—This
45 subsection applies only if the defendant has not waived his or
46 her right to a sentencing proceeding by a jury.

(a) After hearing all of the evidence presented regarding
aggravating factors and mitigating circumstances, the jury shall
deliberate and determine if the state has proven, beyond a
reasonable doubt, the existence of at least one aggravating
factor set forth in subsection (7).

(b) The jury shall return findings identifying each
aggravating factor found to exist. A finding that an aggravating
factor exists must be unanimous. If the jury:

Does not unanimously find at least one aggravating
 factor, the defendant is ineligible for a sentence of death.

2. Unanimously finds at least one aggravating factor, the defendant is eligible for a sentence of death and the jury shall make a recommendation to the court as to whether the defendant shall be sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole or to death. The recommendation shall be based on a weighing of all of the following:

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a. Whether sufficient aggravating factors exist.

64 b. Whether aggravating factors exist which outweigh the65 mitigating circumstances found to exist.

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66	c. Based on the considerations in sub-subparagraphs a. and
67	b., whether the defendant should be sentenced to life
68	imprisonment without the possibility of parole or to death.
69	(c) If <u>at least eight jurors determine</u> a unanimous jury
70	determines that the defendant should be sentenced to death, the
71	jury's recommendation to the court shall be a sentence of death.
72	If <u>fewer than eight jurors</u> a unanimous jury does not determine
73	that the defendant should be sentenced to death, the jury's
74	recommendation to the court shall be a sentence of life
75	imprisonment without the possibility of parole.
76	(4) IMPOSITION OF SENTENCE OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT OR DEATH. $-$
77	(a) If the jury has recommended a sentence of:
78	1. Life imprisonment without the possibility of parole,
79	the court shall impose the recommended sentence of life
80	imprisonment without the possibility of parole.
81	2. Death, and at least eight jurors recommend a sentence
82	of death, the court, after considering each aggravating factor
83	found by the jury and all mitigating circumstances, may impose a
84	sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole
85	or a sentence of death. The court may consider only an
86	aggravating factor that was unanimously found to exist by the
87	jury. The court may impose a sentence of death only if the jury
88	unanimously finds at least one aggravating factor beyond a
89	reasonable doubt.

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90 (b) If the defendant waived his or her right to a 91 sentencing proceeding by a jury, the court, after considering 92 all aggravating factors and mitigating circumstances, may impose 93 a sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of 94 parole or a sentence of death. The court may impose a sentence 95 of death only if the court finds at least one appravating factor 96 has been proven to exist beyond a reasonable doubt. 97 (5) ORDER OF THE COURT IN SUPPORT OF SENTENCE OF LIFE 98 IMPRISONMENT OR DEATH.-In each case in which the court imposes a 99 sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole 100 or death sentence, the court shall, considering the records of 101 the trial and the sentencing proceedings, enter a written order 102 addressing the aggravating factors set forth in subsection (7) 103 found to exist, the mitigating circumstances in subsection (8) 104 reasonably established by the evidence, whether there are 105 sufficient aggravating factors to warrant the death penalty, and 106 whether the aggravating factors outweigh the mitigating 107 circumstances reasonably established by the evidence. The court 108 must include in its written order the reasons for not accepting the jury's recommended sentence, if applicable. If the court 109 110 does not issue its order requiring the death sentence within 30

111 days after the rendition of the judgment and sentence, the court 112 shall impose a sentence of life imprisonment without the 113 possibility of parole in accordance with s. 775.082.

114 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law. 295837 - h0555-line58.docx

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118	TITLE AMENDMENT
119	Remove lines 4-13 and insert:
120	requiring a determination of a specified number of jurors,
121	rather than jury unanimity, for a sentencing recommendation of
122	death to the court; requiring a determination of a specified
123	number of jurors for a sentencing recommendation of life
124	imprisonment without the possibility of parole to the court;
125	requiring the court to impose the recommended sentence of life
126	imprisonment without the possibility of parole if fewer than
127	eight jurors recommend a sentence of death; authorizing the
128	court to impose a sentence of life imprisonment without the
129	possibility of parole or a sentence of death if at least eight
130	jurors recommend a sentence of death; specifying that the court
131	may impose a sentence of death only if the jury unanimously
132	finds at least one aggravating factor beyond a reasonable doubt;
133	requiring the court to include in its written order the reasons
134	for not accepting a jury's recommended sentence, if applicable;
135	providing an effective date.

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