

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 486

To reduce the risk that innocent persons may be executed, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 7, 2001

Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. AKAKA, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DODD, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. CORZINE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To reduce the risk that innocent persons may be executed, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Innocence Protection Act of 2001”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—EXONERATING THE INNOCENT THROUGH DNA TESTING

- Sec. 101. Findings and purposes.
 Sec. 102. Post-conviction DNA testing in Federal criminal justice system.
 Sec. 103. Post-conviction DNA testing in State criminal justice systems.
 Sec. 104. Prohibition pursuant to section 5 of the 14th amendment.
 Sec. 105. Grants to prosecutors for DNA testing programs.

TITLE II—ENSURING COMPETENT LEGAL SERVICES IN CAPITAL
 CASES

- Sec. 201. National Commission on Capital Representation.
 Sec. 202. Capital defense incentive grants.
 Sec. 203. Amendments to prison grant programs.
 Sec. 204. Effect on procedural default rules.
 Sec. 205. Capital defense resource grants.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- Sec. 301. Increased compensation in Federal cases.
 Sec. 302. Compensation in State death penalty cases.
 Sec. 303. Certification requirement in Federal death penalty prosecutions.
 Sec. 304. Alternative of life imprisonment without possibility of release.
 Sec. 305. Right to an informed jury.
 Sec. 306. Annual reports.
 Sec. 307. Sense of Congress regarding the execution of juvenile offenders and
 the mentally retarded.

1 **TITLE I—EXONERATING THE IN-**
 2 **NOCENT THROUGH DNA**
 3 **TESTING**

4 **SEC. 101. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
 6 ings:

7 (1) Over the past decade, deoxyribonucleic acid
 8 testing (referred to in this section as “DNA test-
 9 ing”) has emerged as the most reliable forensic tech-
 10 nique for identifying criminals when biological mate-
 11 rial is left at a crime scene.

12 (2) Because of its scientific precision, DNA
 13 testing can, in some cases, conclusively establish the
 14 guilt or innocence of a criminal defendant. In other

1 cases, DNA testing may not conclusively establish
2 guilt or innocence, but may have significant pro-
3 bative value to a finder of fact.

4 (3) While DNA testing is increasingly common-
5 place in pretrial investigations today, it was not
6 widely available in cases tried prior to 1994. More-
7 over, new forensic DNA testing procedures have
8 made it possible to get results from minute samples
9 that could not previously be tested, and to obtain
10 more informative and accurate results than earlier
11 forms of forensic DNA testing could produce. Con-
12 sequently, in some cases convicted inmates have
13 been exonerated by new DNA tests after earlier tests
14 had failed to produce definitive results.

15 (4) Since DNA testing is often feasible on rel-
16 evant biological material that is decades old, it can,
17 in some circumstances, prove that a conviction that
18 predated the development of DNA testing was based
19 upon incorrect factual findings. Uniquely, DNA evi-
20 dence showing innocence, produced decades after a
21 conviction, provides a more reliable basis for estab-
22 lishing a correct verdict than any evidence proffered
23 at the original trial. DNA testing, therefore, can and
24 has resulted in the post-conviction exoneration of in-
25 nocent men and women.

1 (5) In more than 80 cases in the United States,
2 DNA evidence has led to the exoneration of innocent
3 men and women who were wrongfully convicted.
4 This number includes at least 10 individuals sen-
5 tenced to death, some of whom came within days of
6 being executed.

7 (6) In more than a dozen cases, post-conviction
8 DNA testing that has exonerated an innocent person
9 has also enhanced public safety by providing evi-
10 dence that led to the identification of the actual per-
11 petrator.

12 (7) Experience has shown that it is not unduly
13 burdensome to make DNA testing available to in-
14 mates. The cost of that testing is relatively modest
15 and has decreased in recent years. Moreover, the
16 number of cases in which post-conviction DNA test-
17 ing is appropriate is small, and will decrease as pre-
18 trial testing becomes more common.

19 (8) Under current Federal and State law, it is
20 difficult to obtain post-conviction DNA testing be-
21 cause of time limits on introducing newly discovered
22 evidence. Under Federal law, motions for a new trial
23 based on newly discovered evidence must be made
24 within 3 years after conviction. In most States, those
25 motions must be made not later than 2 years after

1 conviction, and sometimes much sooner. The result
2 is that laws intended to prevent the use of evidence
3 that has become less reliable over time have been
4 used to preclude the use of DNA evidence that re-
5 mains highly reliable even decades after trial.

6 (9) The National Commission on the Future of
7 DNA Evidence, a Federal panel established by the
8 Department of Justice and comprised of law en-
9 forcement, judicial, and scientific experts, has urged
10 that post-conviction DNA testing be permitted in the
11 relatively small number of cases in which it is appro-
12 priate, notwithstanding procedural rules that could
13 be invoked to preclude that testing, and notwith-
14 standing the inability of an inmate to pay for the
15 testing.

16 (10) Since New York passed the Nation's first
17 post-conviction DNA statute in 1994, only a few
18 States have adopted post-conviction DNA testing
19 procedures, and some of these procedures are unduly
20 restrictive. Moreover, only a handful of States have
21 passed legislation requiring that biological evidence
22 be adequately preserved.

23 (11) In 1994, Congress passed the DNA Identifi-
24 cation Act, which authorized the construction of
25 the Combined DNA Index System, a national data-

1 base to facilitate law enforcement exchange of DNA
2 identification information, and authorized funding to
3 improve the quality and availability of DNA testing
4 for law enforcement identification purposes. In
5 2000, Congress passed the DNA Analysis Backlog
6 Elimination Act and the Paul Coverdell Forensic
7 Sciences Improvement Act, which together author-
8 ized an additional \$908,000,000 over 6 years in
9 DNA-related grants.

10 (12) Congress should continue to provide finan-
11 cial assistance to the States to increase the capacity
12 of State and local laboratories to carry out DNA
13 testing for law enforcement identification purposes.
14 At the same time, Congress should insist that States
15 which accept financial assistance make DNA testing
16 available to both sides of the adversarial system in
17 order to enhance the reliability and integrity of that
18 system.

19 (13) In *Herrera v. Collins*, 506 U.S. 390
20 (1993), a majority of the members of the Court sug-
21 gested that a persuasive showing of innocence made
22 after trial would render the execution of an inmate
23 unconstitutional.

24 (14) It shocks the conscience and offends social
25 standards of fairness and decency to execute inno-

1 cent persons or to deny inmates the opportunity to
2 present persuasive evidence of their innocence.

3 (15) If biological material is not subjected to
4 DNA testing in appropriate cases, there is a signifi-
5 cant risk that persuasive evidence of innocence will
6 not be detected and, accordingly, that innocent per-
7 sons will be unconstitutionally executed.

8 (16) Given the irremediable constitutional harm
9 that would result from the execution of an innocent
10 person and the failure of many States to ensure that
11 innocent persons are not sentenced to death, a Fed-
12 eral statute assuring the availability of DNA testing
13 and a chance to present the results of testing in
14 court is a congruent and proportional prophylactic
15 measure to prevent constitutional injuries from oc-
16 ccurring.

17 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this title are to—

18 (1) substantially implement the Recommenda-
19 tions of the National Commission on the Future of
20 DNA Evidence in the Federal criminal justice sys-
21 tem, by authorizing DNA testing in appropriate
22 cases;

23 (2) prevent the imposition of unconstitutional
24 punishments through the exercise of power granted
25 by clause 1 of section 8 and clause 2 of section 9

1 of article I of the Constitution of the United States
 2 and section 5 of the 14th amendment to the Con-
 3 stitution of the United States; and

4 (3) ensure that wrongfully convicted persons
 5 have an opportunity to establish their innocence
 6 through DNA testing, by requiring the preservation
 7 of DNA evidence for a limited period.

8 **SEC. 102. POST-CONVICTION DNA TESTING IN FEDERAL**
 9 **CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part VI of title 28, United States
 11 Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 155 the fol-
 12 lowing:

13 **“CHAPTER 156—DNA TESTING**

“Sec.

“2291. DNA testing.

“2292. Preservation of evidence.

14 **“§ 2291. DNA testing**

15 “(a) APPLICATION.—Notwithstanding any other pro-
 16 vision of law, a person convicted of a Federal crime may
 17 apply to the appropriate Federal court for DNA testing
 18 to support a claim that the person did not commit—

19 “(1) the Federal crime of which the person was
 20 convicted; or

21 “(2) any other offense that a sentencing au-
 22 thority may have relied upon when it sentenced the
 23 person with respect to the Federal crime either to

1 death or to an enhanced term of imprisonment as a
2 career offender or armed career criminal.

3 “(b) NOTICE TO GOVERNMENT.—The court shall no-
4 tify the Government of an application made under sub-
5 section (a) and shall afford the Government an oppor-
6 tunity to respond.

7 “(c) PRESERVATION ORDER.—The court shall order
8 that all evidence secured in relation to the case that could
9 be subjected to DNA testing must be preserved during the
10 pendency of the proceeding. The court may impose appro-
11 priate sanctions, including criminal contempt, for the in-
12 tentional destruction of evidence after such an order.

13 “(d) ORDER.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The court shall order DNA
15 testing pursuant to an application made under sub-
16 section (a) upon a determination that—

17 “(A) the evidence is still in existence, and
18 in such a condition that DNA testing may be
19 conducted;

20 “(B) the evidence was never previously
21 subjected to DNA testing, or was not subject to
22 the type of DNA testing that is now requested
23 and that may resolve an issue not resolved by
24 previous testing;

1 “(C) the proposed DNA testing uses a sci-
2 entifically valid technique; and

3 “(D) the proposed DNA testing has the
4 scientific potential to produce new, noncumu-
5 lative evidence material to the claim of the ap-
6 plicant that the applicant did not commit—

7 “(i) the Federal crime of which the
8 applicant was convicted; or

9 “(ii) any other offense that a sen-
10 tencing authority may have relied upon
11 when it sentenced the applicant with re-
12 spect to the Federal crime either to death
13 or to an enhanced term of imprisonment as
14 a career offender or armed career criminal.

15 “(2) LIMITATION.—The court shall not order
16 DNA testing under paragraph (1) if the Government
17 proves by a preponderance of the evidence that the
18 application for testing was made to unreasonably
19 delay the execution of sentence or administration of
20 justice, rather than to support a claim described in
21 paragraph (1)(D).

22 “(3) TESTING PROCEDURES.—If the court or-
23 ders DNA testing under paragraph (1), the court
24 shall impose reasonable conditions on such testing
25 designed to protect the integrity of the evidence and

1 the testing process and the reliability of the test re-
2 sults.

3 “(e) COST.—The cost of DNA testing ordered under
4 subsection (c) shall be borne by the Government or the
5 applicant, as the court may order in the interests of jus-
6 tice, except that an applicant shall not be denied testing
7 because of an inability to pay the cost of testing.

8 “(f) COUNSEL.—The court may at any time appoint
9 counsel for an indigent applicant under this section pursu-
10 ant to section 3006A(a)(2)(B) of title 18.

11 “(g) POST-TESTING PROCEDURES.—

12 “(1) INCONCLUSIVE RESULTS.—If the results of
13 DNA testing conducted under this section are incon-
14 clusive, the court may order such further testing as
15 may be appropriate or dismiss the application.

16 “(2) RESULTS UNFAVORABLE TO APPLICANT.—
17 If the results of DNA testing conducted under this
18 section inculcate the applicant, the court shall—

19 “(A) dismiss the application;

20 “(B) assess the applicant for the cost of
21 the testing; and

22 “(C) make such further orders as may be
23 appropriate.

24 “(3) RESULTS FAVORABLE TO APPLICANT.—If
25 the results of DNA testing conducted under this sec-

1 tion are favorable to the applicant, the court shall
 2 order a hearing and thereafter make such further
 3 orders as may be appropriate under applicable rules
 4 and statutes regarding post-conviction proceedings,
 5 notwithstanding any provision of law that would bar
 6 such hearing or orders as untimely.

7 “(h) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

8 “(1) OTHER POST-CONVICTION RELIEF UNAF-
 9 FECTED.—Nothing in this section shall be construed
 10 to limit the circumstances under which a person may
 11 obtain DNA testing or other post-conviction relief
 12 under any other provision of law.

13 “(2) FINALITY RULE UNAFFECTED.—An appli-
 14 cation under this section shall not be considered a
 15 motion under section 2255 for purposes of deter-
 16 mining whether it or any other motion is a second
 17 or successive motion under section 2255.

18 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 “(1) APPROPRIATE FEDERAL COURT.—The
 20 term ‘appropriate Federal court’ means—

21 “(A) the United States District Court
 22 which imposed the sentence from which the ap-
 23 plicant seeks relief; or

24 “(B) in relation to a crime under the Uni-
 25 form Code of Military Justice, the United

1 States District Court having jurisdiction over
2 the place where the court martial was convened
3 that imposed the sentence from which the appli-
4 cant seeks relief, or the United States District
5 Court for the District of Columbia, if no United
6 States District Court has jurisdiction over the
7 place where the court martial was convened.

8 “(2) FEDERAL CRIME.—The term ‘Federal
9 crime’ includes a crime under the Uniform Code of
10 Military Justice.

11 **“§ 2292. Preservation of evidence**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other pro-
13 vision of law and subject to subsection (b), the Govern-
14 ment shall preserve all evidence that was secured in rela-
15 tion to the investigation or prosecution of a Federal crime
16 (as that term is defined in section 2291(i)), and that could
17 be subjected to DNA testing, for not less than the period
18 of time that any person remains subject to incarceration
19 in connection with the investigation or prosecution.

20 “(b) EXCEPTIONS.—The Government may dispose of
21 evidence before the expiration of the period of time de-
22 scribed in subsection (a) if—

23 “(1) other than subsection (a), no statute, regu-
24 lation, court order, or other provision of law requires
25 that the evidence be preserved; and

1 “(2)(A)(i) the Government notifies any person
2 who remains incarcerated in connection with the in-
3 vestigation or prosecution and any counsel of record
4 for such person (or, if there is no counsel of record,
5 the public defender for the judicial district in which
6 the conviction for such person was imposed), of the
7 intention of the Government to dispose of the evi-
8 dence and the provisions of this chapter; and

9 “(ii) the Government affords such person not
10 less than 180 days after such notification to make
11 an application under section 2291(a) for DNA test-
12 ing of the evidence; or

13 “(B)(i) the evidence must be returned to its
14 rightful owner, or is of such a size, bulk, or physical
15 character as to render retention impracticable; and

16 “(ii) the Government takes reasonable measures
17 to remove and preserve portions of the material evi-
18 dence sufficient to permit future DNA testing.

19 “(c) REMEDIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.—

20 “(1) GENERAL LIMITATION.—Nothing in this
21 section shall be construed to give rise to a claim for
22 damages against the United States, or any employee
23 of the United States, any court official or officer of
24 the court, or any entity contracting with the United
25 States.

1 “(2) CIVIL PENALTY.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding para-
3 graph (1), an individual who knowingly violates
4 a provision of this section or a regulation pre-
5 scribed under this section shall be liable to the
6 United States for a civil penalty in an amount
7 not to exceed \$1,000 for the first violation and
8 \$5,000 for each subsequent violation, except
9 that the total amount imposed on the individual
10 for all such violations during a calendar year
11 may not exceed \$25,000.

12 “(B) PROCEDURES.—The provisions of
13 section 405 of the Controlled Substances Act
14 (21 U.S.C. 844a) (other than subsections (a)
15 through (d) and subsection (j)) shall apply to
16 the imposition of a civil penalty under subpara-
17 graph (A) in the same manner as such provi-
18 sions apply to the imposition of a penalty under
19 section 405.

20 “(C) PRIOR CONVICTION.—A civil penalty
21 may not be assessed under subparagraph (A)
22 with respect to an act if that act previously re-
23 sulted in a conviction under chapter 73 of title
24 18.

25 “(3) REGULATIONS.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General
2 shall promulgate regulations to implement and
3 enforce this section.

4 “(B) CONTENTS.—The regulations shall
5 include the following:

6 “(i) Disciplinary sanctions, including
7 suspension or termination from employ-
8 ment, for employees of the Department of
9 Justice who knowingly or repeatedly violate
10 a provision of this section.

11 “(ii) An administrative procedure
12 through which parties can file formal com-
13 plaints with the Department of Justice al-
14 leging violations of this section.”.

15 (b) CRIMINAL PENALTY.—Chapter 73 of title 18,
16 United States Code, is amended by inserting at the end
17 the following:

18 **“§ 1519. Destruction or altering of DNA evidence**

19 “Whoever willfully or maliciously destroys, alters,
20 conceals, or tampers with evidence that is required to be
21 preserved under section 2292 of title 28, United States
22 Code, with intent to—

23 “(1) impair the integrity of that evidence;

24 “(2) prevent that evidence from being subjected
25 to DNA testing; or

1 States Code, and, if the results of such testing are
2 favorable to such person, allow such person to apply
3 for post-conviction relief, notwithstanding any provi-
4 sion of law that would bar such application as un-
5 timely; and

6 (2) preserve all evidence that was secured in re-
7 lation to the investigation or prosecution of a State
8 crime, and that could be subjected to DNA testing,
9 for not less than the period of time that such evi-
10 dence would be required to be preserved under sec-
11 tion 2292 of title 28, United States Code, if the evi-
12 dence were related to a Federal crime.

13 (b) PROGRAMS AFFECTED.—The certification re-
14 quirement established by subsection (a) shall apply with
15 respect to grants made under the following programs:

16 (1) DNA ANALYSIS BACKLOG ELIMINATION
17 GRANTS.—Section 2 of the DNA Analysis Backlog
18 Elimination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–546).

19 (2) PAUL COVERDELL NATIONAL FORENSIC
20 SCIENCES IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.—Part BB of title
21 I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets
22 Act of 1968 (as added by Public Law 106–561).

23 (3) DNA IDENTIFICATION GRANTS.—Part X of
24 title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe
25 Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796kk et seq.).

1 (b) OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT RESULTS OF DNA
2 TESTING.—No State shall rely upon a time limit or proce-
3 dural default rule to deny a prisoner in State custody who
4 is under sentence of death an opportunity to present in
5 an appropriate State court new, noncumulative DNA re-
6 sults that establish a reasonable probability that the pris-
7 oner did not commit an offense described in subsection
8 (a).

9 (c) REMEDY.—A prisoner in State custody who is
10 under sentence of death may enforce subsections (a) and
11 (b) in a civil action for declaratory or injunctive relief,
12 filed either in a State court of general jurisdiction or in
13 a district court of the United States, naming an executive
14 or judicial officer of the State as defendant.

15 (d) FINALITY RULE UNAFFECTED.—An application
16 under this section shall not be considered an application
17 for a writ of habeas corpus under section 2254 of title
18 28, United States Code, for purposes of determining
19 whether it or any other application is a second or succes-
20 sive application under section 2254.

21 **SEC. 105. GRANTS TO PROSECUTORS FOR DNA TESTING**
22 **PROGRAMS.**

23 Section 501(b) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Con-
24 trol and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3751(b))
25 is amended by—

1 (1) striking “and” at the end of paragraph
2 (25);

3 (2) striking the period at the end of paragraph
4 (26) and inserting “; and”; and

5 (3) adding at the end the following:

6 “(27) prosecutor-initiated programs to conduct
7 a systematic review of convictions to identify cases
8 in which DNA testing is appropriate and to offer
9 DNA testing to inmates in such cases.”.

10 **TITLE II—ENSURING COM-**
11 **PETENT LEGAL SERVICES IN**
12 **CAPITAL CASES**

13 **SEC. 201. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CAPITAL REPRESENTATION.**
14 **TATION.**

15 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Na-
16 tional Commission on Capital Representation (referred to
17 in this section as the “Commission”).

18 (b) DUTIES.—The Commission shall—

19 (1) survey existing and proposed systems for
20 appointing counsel in capital cases, and the amounts
21 actually paid by governmental entities for capital de-
22 fense services; and

23 (2) formulate standards specifying the elements
24 of an effective system for providing adequate rep-
25 resentation, including counsel and investigative, ex-

1 pert, and other services necessary for adequate rep-
2 resentation, to—

3 (A) indigents charged with offenses for
4 which capital punishment is sought;

5 (B) indigents who have been sentenced to
6 death and who seek appellate or collateral re-
7 view in State court; and

8 (C) indigents who have been sentenced to
9 death and who seek certiorari review in the Su-
10 preme Court of the United States.

11 (c) ELEMENTS.—The elements of an effective system
12 described in subsection (b)(2) shall include—

13 (1) a centralized and independent appointing
14 authority, which shall—

15 (A) recruit attorneys who are qualified to
16 be appointed in the proceedings specified in
17 subsection (b)(2);

18 (B) draft and annually publish a roster of
19 qualified attorneys;

20 (C) draft and annually publish qualifica-
21 tions and performance standards that attorneys
22 must satisfy to be listed on the roster and pro-
23 cedures by which qualified attorneys are identi-
24 fied;

1 (D) periodically review the roster, monitor
2 the performance of all attorneys appointed, pro-
3 vide a mechanism by which members of the rel-
4 evant State Bar may comment on the perform-
5 ance of their peers, and delete the name of any
6 attorney who fails to satisfactorily complete reg-
7 ular training programs on the representation of
8 clients in capital cases, fails to meet perform-
9 ance standards in a case to which the attorney
10 is appointed, or otherwise fails to demonstrate
11 continuing competence to represent clients in
12 capital cases;

13 (E) conduct or sponsor specialized training
14 programs for attorneys representing clients in
15 capital cases;

16 (F) appoint lead counsel and co-counsel
17 from the roster to represent a client in a capital
18 case promptly upon receiving notice of the need
19 for an appointment from the relevant State
20 court; and

21 (G) report the appointment, or the failure
22 of the client to accept such appointment, to the
23 court requesting the appointment;

24 (2) adequate compensation of private attorneys
25 for actual time and service, computed on an hourly

1 basis and at a reasonable hourly rate in light of the
2 qualifications and experience of the attorney and the
3 local market for legal representation in cases reflect-
4 ing the complexity and responsibility of capital
5 cases;

6 (3) reimbursement of private attorneys and
7 public defender organizations for attorney expenses
8 reasonably incurred in the representation of a client
9 in a capital case; and

10 (4) reimbursement of private attorneys and
11 public defender organizations for the reasonable
12 costs of law clerks, paralegals, investigators, experts,
13 scientific tests, and other support services necessary
14 in the representation of a client in a capital case.

15 (d) MEMBERSHIP.—

16 (1) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Com-
17 mission shall be composed of 9 members, as follows:

18 (A) Four members appointed by the Presi-
19 dent on the basis of their expertise and emi-
20 nence within the field of criminal justice, 2 of
21 whom have 10 years or more experience in rep-
22 resenting defendants in State capital pro-
23 ceedings, including trial, direct appeal, or post-
24 conviction proceedings, and 2 of whom have 10

1 years or more experience in prosecuting defend-
2 ants in such proceedings.

3 (B) Two members appointed by the Con-
4 ference of Chief Justices, from among the mem-
5 bers of the judiciaries of the several States.

6 (C) Two members appointed by the Chief
7 Justice of the United States, from among the
8 members of the Federal Judiciary.

9 (D) The Chairman of the Committee on
10 Defender Services of the Judicial Conference of
11 the United States, or a designee of the Chair-
12 man.

13 (2) EX OFFICIO MEMBER.—The Executive Di-
14 rector of the State Justice Institute, or a designee
15 of the Executive Director, shall serve as an ex officio
16 nonvoting member of the Commission.

17 (3) POLITICAL AFFILIATION.—Not more than 2
18 members appointed under paragraph (1)(A) may be
19 of the same political party.

20 (4) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—The appoint-
21 ment of individuals under paragraph (1) shall, to the
22 maximum extent practicable, be made so as to en-
23 sure that different geographic areas of the United
24 States are represented in the membership of the
25 Commission.

1 (5) TERMS.—Members of the Commission ap-
2 pointed under subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of
3 paragraph (1) shall be appointed for the life of the
4 Commission.

5 (6) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENTS.—All ap-
6 pointments to the Commission shall be made not
7 later than 45 days after the date of enactment of
8 this Act.

9 (7) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Commission
10 shall not affect its powers, and shall be filled in the
11 same manner in which the original appointment was
12 made.

13 (8) NO COMPENSATION.—Members of the Com-
14 mission shall serve without compensation for their
15 service.

16 (9) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Members of the Com-
17 mission shall receive travel expenses, including per
18 diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sec-
19 tions 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

20 (10) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of
21 the Commission shall constitute a quorum, but a
22 lesser number may hold hearings.

23 (11) INITIAL MEETING.—The initial meeting of
24 the Commission shall occur not later than 30 days

1 after the date on which all initial members of the
2 Commission have been appointed.

3 (12) CHAIRPERSON.—At the initial meeting of
4 the Commission, a majority of the members of the
5 Commission present and voting shall elect a Chair-
6 person from among the members of the Commission
7 appointed under paragraph (1).

8 (e) STAFF.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may ap-
10 point and fix the pay of such personnel as the Com-
11 mission considers appropriate.

12 (2) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Com-
13 mission may procure temporary and intermittent
14 services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United
15 States Code.

16 (f) POWERS.—

17 (1) INFORMATION-GATHERING ACTIVITIES.—
18 The Commission may, for the purpose of carrying
19 out this section, hold hearings, receive public com-
20 ment and testimony, initiate surveys, and undertake
21 such other activities to gather information as the
22 Commission may find advisable.

23 (2) OBTAINING OFFICIAL INFORMATION.—The
24 Commission may secure directly from any depart-
25 ment or agency of the United States such informa-

1 tion as the Commission considers necessary to carry
2 out this section. Upon request of the chairperson of
3 the Commission, the head of that department or
4 agency shall provide such information, except to the
5 extent prohibited by law.

6 (3) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—

7 Upon the request of the Commission, the Adminis-
8 trator of General Services shall provide to the Com-
9 mission, on a reimbursable basis, the administrative
10 support services necessary for the Commission to
11 carry out its responsibilities under this section.

12 (4) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Commission may

13 use the United States mails in the same manner and
14 under the same conditions as other departments and
15 agencies of the United States.

16 (g) REPORT.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall sub-

18 mit a report to the President and the Congress be-
19 fore the end of the 1-year period beginning after the
20 first meeting of all members of the Commission.

21 (2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under

22 paragraph (1) shall contain—

23 (A) a comparative analysis of existing and

24 proposed systems for appointing counsel in cap-

25 ital cases, and the amounts actually paid by

1 governmental entities for capital defense serv-
2 ices; and

3 (B) such standards as are formulated by
4 the Commission pursuant to subsection (b)(2),
5 together with such commentary and rec-
6 ommendations as the Commission considers ap-
7 propriate.

8 (h) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate
9 90 days after submitting the report under subsection (g).

10 (i) EXPENSES OF COMMISSION.—There are author-
11 ized to be appropriated to pay any expenses of the Com-
12 mission such sums as may be necessary not to exceed
13 \$1,000,000. Any sums appropriated for such purposes are
14 authorized to remain available until expended, or until the
15 termination of the Commission pursuant to subsection (h),
16 whichever occurs first.

17 **SEC. 202. CAPITAL DEFENSE INCENTIVE GRANTS.**

18 The State Justice Institute Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C.
19 10701 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 207
20 the following:

21 **“SEC. 207A. CAPITAL DEFENSE INCENTIVE GRANTS.**

22 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The State Justice In-
23 stitute (referred to in this section as the ‘Institute’) may
24 make grants to State agencies and organizations respon-

1 sible for the administration of standards of legal com-
2 petence for counsel in capital cases, for the purposes of—

3 “(1) implementing new mechanisms or sup-
4 porting existing mechanisms for providing represen-
5 tation in capital cases that comply with the stand-
6 ards promulgated by the National Commission on
7 Capital Representation pursuant to section 201(b) of
8 the Innocence Protection Act of 2001; and

9 “(2) otherwise improving the quality of legal
10 representation in capital cases.

11 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds made available under
12 this section may be used for any purpose that the Institute
13 determines is likely to achieve the purposes described in
14 subsection (a), including—

15 “(1) training and development of training ca-
16 pacity to ensure that attorneys assigned to capital
17 cases meet such standards;

18 “(2) augmentation of attorney, paralegal, inves-
19 tigator, expert witness, and other staff and services
20 necessary for capital defense; and

21 “(3) development of new mechanisms for ad-
22 dressing complaints about attorney competence and
23 performance in capital cases.

24 “(c) APPLICATIONS.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—No grant may be made
2 under this section unless an application has been
3 submitted to, and approved by, the Institute.

4 “(2) APPLICATION.—An application for a grant
5 under this section shall be submitted in such form,
6 and contain such information, as the Institute may
7 prescribe by regulation or guideline.

8 “(3) CONTENTS.—In accordance with the regu-
9 lations or guidelines established by the Institute,
10 each application for a grant under this section
11 shall—

12 “(A) include a long-term strategy and de-
13 tailed implementation program that reflects
14 consultation with the organized bar of the
15 State, the highest court of the State, and the
16 Attorney General of the State, and reflects con-
17 sideration of a statewide strategy; and

18 “(B) specify plans for obtaining necessary
19 support and continuing the proposed program
20 following the termination of Federal support.

21 “(d) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—The Institute may
22 issue rules, regulations, guidelines, and instructions, as
23 necessary, to carry out the purposes of this section.

24 “(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.—To
25 assist and measure the effectiveness and performance of

1 programs funded under this section, the Institute may
2 provide technical assistance and training, as required.

3 “(f) GRANT PERIOD.—A grant under this section
4 shall be made for a period not longer than 3 years, but
5 may be renewed on such terms as the Institute may re-
6 quire.

7 “(g) LIMITATIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.—

8 “(1) NONSUPPLANTING REQUIREMENT.—Funds
9 made available under this section shall not be used
10 to supplant State or local funds, but shall be used
11 to supplement the amount of funds that would, in
12 the absence of Federal funds received under this sec-
13 tion, be made available from States or local sources.

14 “(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of a
15 grant made under this part may not exceed—

16 “(A) for the first fiscal year for which a
17 program receives assistance, 75 percent of the
18 total costs of such program; and

19 “(B) for subsequent fiscal years for which
20 a program receives assistance, 50 percent of the
21 total costs of such program.

22 “(3) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—A State agency
23 or organization may not use more than 5 percent of
24 the funds it receives from this section for adminis-

1 trative expenses, including expenses incurred in pre-
2 paring reports under subsection (h).

3 “(h) REPORT.—Each State agency or organization
4 that receives a grant under this section shall submit to
5 the Institute, at such times and in such format as the In-
6 stitute may require, a report that contains—

7 “(1) a summary of the activities carried out
8 under the grant and an assessment of the effective-
9 ness of such activities in achieving ongoing compli-
10 ance with the standards formulated pursuant to sec-
11 tion 201(b) of the Innocence Protection Act of 2001
12 and improving the quality of representation in cap-
13 ital cases; and

14 “(2) such other information as the Institute
15 may require.

16 “(i) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days
17 after the end of each fiscal year for which grants are made
18 under this section, the Institute shall submit to Congress
19 a report that includes—

20 “(1) the aggregate amount of grants made
21 under this part to each State agency or organization
22 for such fiscal year;

23 “(2) a summary of the information provided in
24 compliance with subsection (h); and

1 “(3) an independent evaluation of the effective-
2 ness of the programs that received funding under
3 this section in achieving ongoing compliance with the
4 standards formulated pursuant to section 201(b) of
5 the Innocence Protection Act of 2001 and improving
6 the quality of representation in capital cases.

7 “(j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

8 “(1) the term ‘capital case’—

9 “(A) means any criminal case in which a
10 defendant prosecuted in a State court is subject
11 to a sentence of death or in which a death sen-
12 tence has been imposed; and

13 “(B) includes all proceedings filed in con-
14 nection with the case, up to and including di-
15 rect appellate review and post-conviction review
16 in State court; and

17 “(2) the term ‘representation’ includes counsel
18 and investigative, expert, and other services nec-
19 essary for adequate representation.

20 “(k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
22 appropriated to carry out this section, in addition to
23 other amounts authorized by this Act, to remain
24 available until expended, \$50,000,000 for fiscal year

1 2002, and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal
2 years 2003 and 2004.

3 “(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.—
4 Not more than 3 percent of the amount made avail-
5 able under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year shall be
6 available for technical assistance and training activi-
7 ties by the Institute under subsection (e).

8 “(3) EVALUATIONS.—Up to 5 percent of the
9 amount authorized to be appropriated under para-
10 graph (1) in any fiscal year may be used for admin-
11 istrative expenses, including expenses incurred in
12 preparing reports under subsection (i).”.

13 **SEC. 203. AMENDMENTS TO PRISON GRANT PROGRAMS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title II of the Violent
15 Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42
16 U.S.C. 13701 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
17 the following:

18 **“SEC. 20110. STANDARDS FOR CAPITAL REPRESENTATION.**

19 “(a) WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS FOR NONCOMPLI-
20 ANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR CAPITAL REPRESENTA-
21 TION.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall
23 withhold a portion of any grant funds awarded to a
24 State or unit of local government under this subtitle
25 on the first day of each fiscal year after the second

1 fiscal year beginning after September 30, 2001, if
2 such State, or the State to which such unit of local
3 government appertains—

4 “(A) prescribes, authorizes, or permits the
5 penalty of death for any offense, and sought,
6 imposed, or administered such penalty at any
7 time during the preceding 5 fiscal years; and

8 “(B) has not established or does not main-
9 tain an effective system for providing adequate
10 representation for indigent persons in capital
11 cases, in compliance with the standards formu-
12 lated by the National Commission on Capital
13 Representation pursuant to section 201(b) of
14 the Innocence Protection Act of 2001.

15 “(2) WITHHOLDING FORMULA.—The amount to
16 be withheld under paragraph (1) shall be, in the
17 first fiscal year that a State is not in compliance, 10
18 percent of any grant funds awarded under this sub-
19 title to such State and any unit of local government
20 appertaining thereto, and shall increase by 10 per-
21 cent for each year of noncompliance thereafter, up
22 to a maximum of 60 percent.

23 “(3) DISPOSITION OF WITHHELD FUNDS.—
24 Funds withheld under this subsection from appor-
25 tionment to any State or unit of local government

1 shall be allotted by the Attorney General and paid
2 to the States and units of local government receiving
3 a grant under this subtitle, other than any State re-
4 ferred to in paragraph (1), and any unit of local
5 government appertaining thereto, in a manner equiv-
6 alent to the manner in which the allotment under
7 this subtitle was determined.

8 “(b) WAIVER OF WITHHOLDING REQUIREMENT.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may
10 waive in whole or in part the application of the re-
11 quirement of subsection (a) for any 1-year period
12 with respect to any State, where immediately pre-
13 ceding such 1-year period the Attorney General finds
14 that such State has made and continues to make a
15 good faith effort to comply with the standards for-
16 mulated by the National Commission on Capital
17 Representation pursuant to section 201(b) of the In-
18 nocence Protection Act of 2001.

19 “(2) LIMITATION ON WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The
20 Attorney General may not grant a waiver under
21 paragraph (1) with respect to any State for 2 con-
22 secutive 1-year periods.

23 “(3) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—If the
24 Attorney General grants a waiver under paragraph
25 (1), the State shall be required to use the total

1 amount of grant funds awarded to such State or any
2 unit of local government appertaining thereto under
3 this subtitle that would have been withheld under
4 subsection (a) but for the waiver to improve the ca-
5 pability of such State to provide adequate represen-
6 tation in capital cases.

7 “(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180
8 days after the end of each fiscal year for which grants
9 are made under this subtitle, the Attorney General shall
10 submit to Congress a report that includes, with respect
11 to each State that prescribes, authorizes, or permits the
12 penalty of death for any offense—

13 “(1) a detailed description of such State’s sys-
14 tem for providing representation to indigent persons
15 in capital cases;

16 “(2) the amount of any grant funds withheld
17 under subsection (a) for such fiscal year from such
18 State or any unit of local government appertaining
19 thereto, and an explanation of why such funds were
20 withheld; and

21 “(3) the amount of any grant funds released to
22 such State for such fiscal year pursuant to a waiver
23 by the Attorney General under subsection (b), and
24 an explanation of why waiver was granted.”.

1 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
 2 The table of contents in section 2 of the Violent Crime
 3 Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 is amended
 4 by inserting after the item relating to section 20109 the
 5 following:

“Sec. 20110. Standards for capital representation.”.

6 **SEC. 204. EFFECT ON PROCEDURAL DEFAULT RULES.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2254(e) of title 28,
 8 United States Code, is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “In a pro-
 10 ceeding” and inserting “Except as provided in para-
 11 graph (3), in a proceeding”; and

12 (2) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(3) In a proceeding instituted by an applicant
 14 under sentence of death, the court shall neither pre-
 15 sume a finding of fact made by a State court to be
 16 correct nor decline to consider a claim on the ground
 17 that the applicant failed to raise such claim in State
 18 court at the time and in the manner prescribed by
 19 State law, if—

20 “(A) the applicant was financially unable
 21 to obtain adequate representation at the stage
 22 of the State proceedings at which the State
 23 court made the finding of fact or the applicant
 24 failed to raise the claim, and the applicant did
 25 not waive representation by counsel; and

1 “(B) the State did not provide representa-
 2 tion to the applicant under a State system for
 3 providing representation that satisfied the
 4 standards formulated by the National Commis-
 5 sion on Capital Representation pursuant to sec-
 6 tion 201(b) of the Innocence Protection Act of
 7 2001.”.

8 (b) NO RETROACTIVE EFFECT.—The amendments
 9 made by this section shall not apply to any case in which
 10 the relevant State court proceeding occurred before the
 11 end of the first fiscal year following the formulation of
 12 standards by the National Commission on Capital Rep-
 13 resentation pursuant to section 201(b) of the Innocence
 14 Protection Act of 2001.

15 **SEC. 205. CAPITAL DEFENSE RESOURCE GRANTS.**

16 Section 3006A of title 18, United States Code, is
 17 amended—

18 (1) by redesignating subsections (i), (j), and (k)
 19 as subsections (j), (k), and (l), respectively; and

20 (2) by inserting after subsection (h) the fol-
 21 lowing:

22 “(i) CAPITAL DEFENSE RESOURCE GRANTS.—

23 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

24 “(A) the term ‘capital case’—

1 “(i) means any criminal case in which
2 a defendant prosecuted in a State court is
3 subject to a sentence of death or in which
4 a death sentence has been imposed; and

5 “(ii) includes all proceedings filed in
6 connection with the case, including trial,
7 appellate, and Federal and State post-con-
8 viction proceedings;

9 “(B) the term ‘defense services’ includes—

10 “(i) recruitment of counsel;

11 “(ii) training of counsel; and

12 “(iii) legal and administrative support
13 and assistance to counsel; and

14 “(C) the term ‘Director’ means the Direc-
15 tor of the Administrative Office of the United
16 States Courts.

17 “(2) GRANT AWARD AND CONTRACT AUTHOR-
18 ITY.—Notwithstanding subsection (g), the Director
19 shall award grants to, or enter into contracts with,
20 public agencies or private nonprofit organizations for
21 the purpose of providing defense services in capital
22 cases.

23 “(3) PURPOSES.—Grants and contracts award-
24 ed under this subsection shall be used in connection

1 with capital cases in the jurisdiction of the grant re-
2 cipient for 1 or more of the following purposes:

3 “(A) Enhancing the availability, com-
4 petence, and prompt assignment of counsel.

5 “(B) Encouraging continuity of represen-
6 tation between Federal and State proceedings.

7 “(C) Increasing the efficiency with which
8 such cases are resolved.

9 “(4) GUIDELINES.—The Director, in consulta-
10 tion with the Judicial Conference of the United
11 States, shall develop guidelines to ensure that de-
12 fense services provided by recipients of grants and
13 contracts awarded under this subsection are con-
14 sistent with applicable legal and ethical proscriptions
15 governing the duties of counsel in capital cases.

16 “(5) CONSULTATION.—In awarding grants and
17 contracts under this subsection, the Director shall
18 consult with representatives of the highest State
19 court, the organized bar, and the defense bar of the
20 jurisdiction to be served by the recipient of the grant
21 or contract, and shall ensure coordination with
22 grants administered by the State Justice Institute
23 pursuant to section 207A of the State Justice Insti-
24 tute Act of 1984.”.

1 **TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS**
 2 **PROVISIONS**

3 **SEC. 301. INCREASED COMPENSATION IN FEDERAL CASES.**

4 Section 2513(e) of title 28, United States Code, is
 5 amended by striking “\$5,000” and inserting “\$50,000 for
 6 each 12-month period of incarceration, except that a plain-
 7 tiff who was unjustly sentenced to death may be awarded
 8 not more than \$100,000 for each 12-month period of in-
 9 carceration.”.

10 **SEC. 302. COMPENSATION IN STATE DEATH PENALTY**
 11 **CASES.**

12 Section 20105(b)(1) of the Violent Crime Control and
 13 Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13705(b)(1))
 14 is amended by—

15 (1) striking “and” at the end of subparagraph

16 (A);

17 (2) striking the period at the end of subpara-
 18 graph (B) and inserting “; and”; and

19 (3) adding at the end the following:

20 “(C) provide assurances to the Attorney

21 General that the State, if it prescribes, author-

22 izes, or permits the penalty of death for any of-

23 fense, has established or will establish not later

24 than 18 months after the enactment of the In-

1 nocence Protection Act of 2001, effective proce-
2 dures for—

3 “(i) reasonably compensating persons
4 found to have been unjustly convicted of
5 an offense against the State and sentenced
6 to death; and

7 “(ii) investigating the causes of such
8 unjust convictions, publishing the results
9 of such investigations, and taking steps to
10 prevent such errors in future cases.”.

11 **SEC. 303. CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT IN FEDERAL**
12 **DEATH PENALTY PROSECUTIONS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 228 of title 28, United
14 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
15 lowing:

16 **“§ 3599. Certification requirement**

17 “(a) CERTIFICATION BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The
18 Government shall not seek a sentence of death in any case
19 brought before a court of the United States except upon
20 the certification in writing of the Attorney General, which
21 function of certification may not be delegated, that the
22 Federal interest in the prosecution is more substantial
23 than the interests of the State or local authorities.

1 “(b) REQUIREMENTS.—A certification under sub-
2 section (a) shall state the basis on which the certification
3 was made and the reasons for the certification.

4 “(c) STATE INTEREST.—In States where the imposi-
5 tion of a sentence of death is not authorized by law, the
6 fact that the maximum Federal sentence is death does not
7 constitute a more substantial interest in Federal prosecu-
8 tion.

9 “(d) DEFINITION OF STATE.—For purposes of this
10 section, the term ‘State’ includes a State of the United
11 States, the District of Columbia, and any commonwealth,
12 territory, or possession of the United States.

13 “(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This section does
14 not create any rights, substantive or procedural, enforce-
15 able at law by any party in any matter civil or criminal.”.

16 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
17 The analysis for chapter 228 of title 28, United States
18 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“3599. Certification requirement.”.

19 **SEC. 304. ALTERNATIVE OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT WITHOUT**
20 **POSSIBILITY OF RELEASE.**

21 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to clar-
22 ify that juries in death penalty prosecutions brought under
23 the drug kingpin statute—like juries in all other Federal
24 death penalty prosecutions—have the option of recom-
25 mending life imprisonment without possibility of release.

1 (b) CLARIFICATION.—Section 408(l) of the Con-
2 trolled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 848(l)), is amended by
3 striking the first 2 sentences and inserting the following:
4 “Upon a recommendation under subsection (k) that the
5 defendant should be sentenced to death or life imprison-
6 ment without possibility of release, the court shall sen-
7 tence the defendant accordingly. Otherwise, the court shall
8 impose any lesser sentence that is authorized by law.”.

9 **SEC. 305. RIGHT TO AN INFORMED JURY.**

10 Section 20105(b)(1) of the Violent Crime Control and
11 Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13705(b)(1)),
12 as amended by section 302 of this Act, is amended by—

13 (1) striking “and” at the end of subparagraph
14 (B);

15 (2) striking the period at the end of subpara-
16 graph (C) and inserting “; and”; and

17 (3) adding at the end the following:

18 “(D) provide assurances to the Attorney
19 General that in any capital sentencing pro-
20 ceeding occurring after the date of enactment of
21 the Innocence Protection Act of 2001 in which
22 the jury has a role in determining the sentence
23 imposed on the defendant, the court, at the re-
24 quest of the defendant, shall inform the jury of
25 all statutorily authorized sentencing options in

1 the particular case, including applicable parole
2 eligibility rules and terms.”.

3 **SEC. 306. ANNUAL REPORTS.**

4 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date
5 of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the At-
6 torney General shall prepare and transmit to Congress a
7 report concerning the administration of capital punish-
8 ment laws by the Federal Government and the States.

9 (b) REPORT ELEMENTS.—The report required under
10 subsection (a) shall include substantially the same cat-
11 egories of information as are included in the Bureau of
12 Justice Statistics Bulletin entitled “Capital Punishment
13 1999” (December 2000, NCJ 184795), and shall also in-
14 clude the following additional categories of information, if
15 such information can practicably be obtained:

16 (1) The percentage of death-eligible cases in
17 which a death sentence is sought, and the percent-
18 age in which it is imposed.

19 (2) The race of the defendants in death-eligible
20 cases, including death-eligible cases in which a death
21 sentence is not sought, and the race of the victims.

22 (3) The percentage of capital cases in which
23 counsel is retained by the defendant, and the per-
24 centage in which counsel is appointed by the court.

1 (4) The percentage of capital cases in which life
2 without parole is available as an alternative to a
3 death sentence, and the sentences imposed in such
4 cases.

5 (5) The percentage of capital cases in which life
6 without parole is not available as an alternative to
7 a death sentence, and the sentences imposed in such
8 cases.

9 (6) The frequency with which various statutory
10 aggravating factors are invoked by the prosecution.

11 (7) The percentage of cases in which a death
12 sentence or a conviction underlying a death sentence
13 is vacated, reversed, or set aside, and a short state-
14 ment of the reasons therefore.

15 (c) REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE.—In compiling the in-
16 formation referred to in subsection (b), the Attorney Gen-
17 eral shall, when necessary, request assistance from State
18 and local prosecutors, defense attorneys, and courts, as
19 appropriate. Requested assistance, whether provided or
20 denied by a State or local official or entity, shall be noted
21 in the reports referred to in subsection (a).

22 (d) PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.—The Attorney General or
23 the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance, as ap-
24 propriate, shall ensure that the reports referred to in sub-
25 section (a) are—

1 (1) distributed to national print and broadcast
2 media; and

3 (2) posted on an Internet website maintained
4 by the Department of Justice.

5 **SEC. 307. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE EXECU-**
6 **TION OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS AND THE**
7 **MENTALLY RETARDED.**

8 It is the sense of Congress that the death penalty is
9 disproportionate and offends contemporary standards of
10 decency when applied to a person who is mentally retarded
11 or who had not attained the age of 18 years at the time
12 of the offense.

○