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AB 118
PACKET SUMMARY
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
APRIL 25, 2003

Section A

Section A is an excerpt of a report written by the Commission on Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education entitled Juvenile Crime, Juvenile Justice. This article outlines the importance of taking into account biological development and environmental stability when considering juvenile delinquents and the most appropriate way to punish them.

Section B

Section B is a transcript of an investigative report done by National Public Radio. The investigation shows that the functioning process of the adolescent brain is substantially inferior to that of a healthy adult brain.

Section C

Within Section C you will find a breakdown of the states which allow the death penalty and the minimum age that the death penalty can be imposed within those states. Most importantly, this information shows that the majority of 17 state and federal jurisdictions that allow the death penalty have chosen 18 as the appropriate age for the death penalty to be imposed. The Montana and Indiana state legislatures have chosen to raise the age to eighteen since 1999 and there has been no successful legislative activity to lower the age.

Section D

Section D contains general information regarding juvenile death penalty statistics.

Section E

Section E is a listing of all inmates on death row who were under the age of eighteen at the time of their crime. You will also find brief case summaries for each inmate.

Section F

Section F documents the defendants who have been executed for committing a crime while they were juveniles worldwide since 1976. Please note that since 2000, the State of Texas has executed more juvenile offenders than the rest of the world combined.

Section G