

2020 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 64**AMENDMENT 64C FOR THE INTRODUCED BILL**

This bill has been extensively amended (hoghoused) and may no longer be consistent with the original intention of the sponsor.

1 **An Act to ~~prohibit~~ define mitigating circumstances from capital punishment ~~for any~~
2 person suffering from a severe mental illness.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1.** That § 23A-27A-3 be AMENDED:

5 **23A-27A-3. Jury to determine existence of mitigating or aggravating**
6 **circumstances--Instructions to jury.**

7 Upon the conclusion of the evidence, the judge shall give the jury appropriate
8 instructions. After arguments of counsel, the jury shall retire to determine whether any
9 mitigating or aggravating circumstances, as defined in § 23A-27A-1, exist.—~~The~~
10 ~~instructions as determined by the trial judge to be warranted by the evidence shall be~~
11 ~~given in his charge and in writing to the jury for its deliberation.~~ Mitigating circumstances
12 include:

13 (1) The defendant has no significant history of prior criminal conduct;

14 (2) The defendant was afflicted with a mental disability or mental illness;

15 (3) The defendant was under the influence of mental or emotional disturbance;

16 (4) The defendant's inability to appreciate the criminality of their conduct or if the
17 defendant's ability to conform their conduct to the requirements of the law was
18 substantially impaired;

19 (5) The defendant's age at the time of the crime;

20 (6) The defendant acted under duress, though not such duress as to constitute a
21 defense to prosecution, or acted under the domination of another person;

22 (7) The victim was a participant in the homicidal conduct or consented to the homicidal
23 acts;

1 (8) Although the defendant was a principal in the offense which was committed by
2 another, the defendant's participation was relatively minor, although not so minor
3 as to constitute a defense to prosecution;

4 (9) The defendant could not reasonably have foreseen that his or her conduct in the
5 course of the commission of the offense for which he or she was convicted would
6 cause, or would create a grave risk of causing, death to another person;

7 (10) The emotional state of the defendant at the time the crime was committed;

8 (11) The extent of the defendant's cooperation with law enforcement officers or
9 agencies and with the office of the prosecuting attorney;

10 (12) The influence of drugs or alcohol;

11 (13) The good faith, although mistaken, belief by the defendant that circumstances
12 existed which constituted a moral justification for his or her conduct;

13 (14) The defendant is not a continuing threat to society; or

14 (15) Any other evidence which bears on the question of mitigation.

15 The existence of one or more mitigating factors shall be considered together with
16 all the other facts and circumstances of the case, including aggravating circumstances, in
17 determining whether to impose a death sentence. The existence of any mitigating factor
18 may be sufficient reason not to impose a death sentence.