

**Bill Summary**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 60<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>SB 1978</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>INT</b>
<b>Request No.</b>	<b>2968</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sen. Rader</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>01/22/2026</b>

**Bill Analysis**

SB 1978 directs the State Board of Corrections to promulgate rules to establish a verification process before a punishment of death is executed. The process shall include a determination that the Department is not engaging in cruel and unusual punishment, confirmation that the equipment used in the execution was purchased from a reputable vendor, and confirmation that personnel are trained to execute the punishment. The measure prohibits the Department from taking adverse actions against employees that opt out of being present during an execution. The process shall include verification that the drugs used are administered by a person properly certified and licensed and that the drugs were purchased from a reputable vendor. Family members of victims must be properly notified of the execution date. The list of attendees to the execution must be properly confirmed. The verification process shall also ensure that recording of the execution also remain functional.

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