

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**H. B. No. 656**

**Representative Williams**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Hall, T., Robb Blasdel**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 2903.14 and 2927.15 of the  
Revised Code to create the offense of negligent  
assault of a peace officer.

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**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That sections 2903.14 and 2927.15 of the  
Revised Code be amended to read as follows:

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**Sec. 2903.14.** (A) No person shall negligently, by means of  
a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance as defined in section  
2923.11 of the Revised Code, cause physical harm to another or  
to another's unborn.

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(B) No person shall negligently cause physical harm to a  
peace officer as a result of possessing a controlled substance  
or a controlled substance analog or drug paraphernalia.

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(C) (1) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is  
guilty of negligent assault, a misdemeanor of the third degree.

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(2) (a) Except as provided in division (C) (2) (b) of this  
section, whoever violates division (B) of this section is guilty  
of negligent assault of a peace officer, a misdemeanor of the

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first degree. 18

(b) If the physical harm also results in a substantial 19  
risk of exposure to an infectious disease, negligent assault of 20  
a peace officer is a felony of the fifth degree. The presence of 21  
an infectious disease shall be determined by collection of 22  
blood, urine, tissue, or other relevant bodily substance from 23  
the defendant by a peace officer or other person ordered to do 24  
so by the court. 25

(C) As used in this section, "peace officer" has the same 26  
meaning as in section 109.71 of the Revised Code. 27

**Sec. 2927.15.** (A) No person shall knowingly collect any 28  
blood, urine, tissue, or other bodily substance of another 29  
person without privilege or consent to do so. 30

(B) (1) Division (A) of this section does not apply to any 31  
of the following: 32

(a) The collection of any bodily substance of a person by 33  
a law enforcement officer, or by another person pursuant to the 34  
direction or advice of a law enforcement officer, for purposes 35  
of a chemical test or tests of the substance under division (A) 36  
(1) of section 1547.111 or division (A) (2) of section 4511.191 37  
of the Revised Code to determine the alcohol, drug, controlled 38  
substance, metabolite of a controlled substance, or combination 39  
content of the bodily substance; 40

(b) The collection of any bodily substance of a person by 41  
a peace officer, or by another person pursuant to the direction 42  
or advice of a peace officer, for purposes of a test or tests of 43  
the substance as provided in division (A) of section 4506.17 of 44  
the Revised Code to determine the person's alcohol concentration 45  
or the presence of any controlled substance or metabolite of a 46

controlled substance; 47

(c) The collection of any bodily substance of a person by 48  
a peace officer, or by another person pursuant to a court order, 49  
for purposes of a test or tests of the substance to determine 50  
the presence of an infectious disease in relation to a charge 51  
under division (B) of section 2903.14 of the Revised Code. 52

(2) Division (B)(1) of this section shall not be construed 53  
as implying that the persons identified in divisions (B)(1)(a) 54  
and (b) of this section do not have privilege to collect the 55  
bodily substance of another person as described in those 56  
divisions or as limiting the definition of "privilege" set forth 57  
in section 2901.01 of the Revised Code. 58

(C) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is 59  
guilty of unlawful collection of a bodily substance. Except as 60  
otherwise provided in this division, unlawful collection of a 61  
bodily substance is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the 62  
offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a 63  
violation of division (A) of this section, unlawful collection 64  
of a bodily substance is a felony of the fifth degree. 65

**Section 2.** That existing sections 2903.14 and 2927.15 of 66  
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 67