

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**H. B. No. 677**

**Representatives Synenberg, Abrams**

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To amend section 2919.23 and to enact sections 1  
2929.45, 4927.25, 4927.26, 4927.27, 4927.28, 2  
4927.29, and 5502.55 of the Revised Code to 3  
modify the law governing interference with 4  
custody, to require wireless service providers 5  
to provide call location information to law 6  
enforcement in certain emergency situations, and 7  
to create an endangered missing child alert. 8

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

**Section 1.** That section 2919.23 be amended and sections 9  
2929.45, 4927.25, 4927.26, 4927.27, 4927.28, 4927.29, and 10  
5502.55 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 11

**Sec. 2919.23.** (A) No person, knowing the person is without 12  
privilege to do so or being reckless in that regard, shall 13  
entice, take, keep, or harbor a person identified in division 14  
(A) (1), (2), or (3) of this section from the parent, guardian, 15  
or custodian of the person identified in division (A) (1), (2), 16  
or (3) of this section: 17

(1) A child under the age of eighteen, or a child with a 18  
mental or physical disability under the age of twenty-one; 19

(2) A person committed by law to an institution for 20

delinquent, unruly, neglected, abused, or dependent children; 21

(3) A person committed by law to an institution for 22  
persons with mental illnesses or an institution for persons with 23  
intellectual disabilities. 24

(B) No person shall aid, abet, induce, cause, or encourage 25  
a child or a ward of the juvenile court who has been committed 26  
to the custody of any person, department, or public or private 27  
institution to leave the custody of that person, department, or 28  
institution without legal consent. 29

(C) It is an affirmative defense to a charge of enticing 30  
or taking under division (A) (1) of this section, that the actor 31  
reasonably believed that the actor's conduct was necessary to 32  
preserve the child's health or safety. It is an affirmative 33  
defense to a charge of keeping or harboring under division (A) 34  
of this section, that the actor in good faith gave notice to law 35  
enforcement or judicial authorities within a reasonable time 36  
after the child or committed person came under the actor's 37  
shelter, protection, or influence. 38

(D) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of 39  
interference with custody. 40

~~(2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in this division\_~~ 41  
~~(D) (2) (b) or (c) of this section,~~ a violation of division (A) (1) 42  
of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree. ~~If~~ 43

(b) If the child who is the subject of a violation of 44  
division (A) (1) of this section is removed from the state or if 45  
the offender previously has been convicted of an offense under 46  
this section, ~~a violation of division (A) (1) of this section is~~ 47  
~~a felony of the fifth degree. If the child who is the subject of~~ 48  
~~a violation of division (A) (1) of this section suffers physical~~ 49

~~harm as a result of the violation,~~ a violation of division (A) 50  
(1) of this section is a felony of the fourth degree. 51

(c) If the child who is the subject of a violation of 52  
division (A) (1) of this section is removed from the United 53  
States, a violation of division (A) (1) of this section is a 54  
felony of the third degree. 55

(3) A violation of division (A) (2) or (3) of this section 56  
is a misdemeanor of the third degree. 57

(4) A violation of division (B) of this section is a 58  
misdemeanor of the first degree. Each day of violation of 59  
division (B) of this section is a separate offense. 60

**Sec. 2929.45.** (A) As used in this section, "local law 61  
enforcement agency" means the police department of a municipal 62  
corporation in which an offense occurred or, if the offense did 63  
not occur in a municipal corporation, the sheriff of the county 64  
in which the offense occurred. 65

(B) If the court issues a warrant for the arrest of a 66  
person for a violation of section 2919.23 of the Revised Code, 67  
the court shall notify the local law enforcement agency of the 68  
warrant. The local law enforcement agency shall enter the 69  
warrant into the national crime information center computer and 70  
the law enforcement automated data system with a national pickup 71  
radius. 72

**Sec. 4927.25.** As used in sections 4927.25 to 4927.29 of 73  
the Revised Code: 74

(A) "Call location information" means real-time, precision 75  
location requests from a wireless service device, commonly 76  
referred to as "pings," and will typically reflect a latitude 77  
and longitude along with a certainty factor. 78

(B) "Emergency" means an occurrence or event that poses an 79  
imminent threat to the health or life of a human. 80

(C) "Law enforcement agency" means an organization or unit 81  
made up of law enforcement officers, as such officers are 82  
defined in section 2901.01 of the Revised Code. 83

(D) "Peace officer" has the same meaning as in section 84  
2921.51 of the Revised Code. 85

(E) "Public safety answering point" has the same meaning 86  
as in section 128.01 of the Revised Code. 87

**Sec. 4927.26.** On request, a wireless service provider 88  
shall provide call location information to a law enforcement 89  
agency, a peace officer, or a public safety answering point on 90  
behalf of a law enforcement agency, concerning a user of a 91  
wireless service device in the following circumstances: 92

(A) In an emergency situation to enable the peace officer 93  
or law enforcement agency to respond to a call for emergency 94  
service by a subscriber, customer, or user of wireless service; 95  
or 96

(B) In an emergency situation that involves danger of 97  
death or serious physical injury to any person, where disclosure 98  
of communications relating to the emergency is required without 99  
delay; provided that, in either circumstance, the wireless 100  
service provider believes, in good faith, that an emergency 101  
situation exists requiring disclosure without delay of 102  
communications relating to the emergency. 103

**Sec. 4927.27.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, 104  
a wireless service provider may establish protocols for the 105  
voluntary disclosure of call location information. 106

Sec. 4927.28. (A) The bureau of criminal investigation 107  
shall obtain contact information from all wireless service 108  
providers authorized to do business in the state to facilitate a 109  
request from a law enforcement agency, a peace officer, or a 110  
public safety answering point on behalf of a law enforcement 111  
agency, for call location information pursuant to section 112  
4927.26 of the Revised Code. 113

(B) The bureau shall disseminate the contact information 114  
described in division (A) of this section to each public safety 115  
answering point in the state. 116

Sec. 4927.29. No cause of action shall arise in any court 117  
of this state against a wireless service provider, or its 118  
officers, employees, agents, or other persons, for providing any 119  
information, facilities, or assistance to a law enforcement 120  
agency, a peace officer, or a public safety answering point on 121  
behalf of a law enforcement agency, in accordance with sections 122  
4927.25 to 4927.28 of the Revised Code. 123

Sec. 5502.55. (A) As used in this section: 124

(1) "Cable system" has the same meaning as in section 125  
2913.04 of the Revised Code. 126

(2) "Law enforcement agency" includes, but is not limited 127  
to, a county sheriff's office, the office of a village marshal, 128  
a police department of a municipal corporation, a police force 129  
of a regional transit authority, a police force of a 130  
metropolitan housing authority, the state highway patrol, a 131  
state university law enforcement agency, the office of a 132  
township police constable, and the police department of a 133  
township or joint police district. 134

(B) (1) The statewide endangered missing child emergency 135

alert program is created to aid in the identification and 136  
location of endangered missing children who are under eighteen 137  
years of age and who, as determined by a law enforcement agency, 138  
are at a high risk for serious bodily harm or death. 139

(2) The program shall be a coordinated effort among the 140  
governor's office, the department of public safety, the attorney 141  
general, law enforcement agencies, the state's public and 142  
commercial television and radio broadcasters, and others as 143  
deemed necessary by the governor. 144

(3) The state highway patrol and the bureau of criminal 145  
identification and investigation may cooperate to ensure that 146  
both of the following occur: 147

(a) An endangered missing child that meets the activation 148  
criteria in division (C) of this section is entered into the law 149  
enforcement automated data system as a missing person. 150

(b) Upon entering the endangered missing child into the 151  
law enforcement automated data system, the law enforcement 152  
automated data system shall automatically notify law enforcement 153  
agencies and the bureau of criminal identification and 154  
investigation that the endangered missing child is a missing 155  
person. 156

(C) The statewide endangered missing child emergency alert 157  
program shall not be implemented unless all of the following 158  
activation criteria are met: 159

(1) The local investigating law enforcement agency 160  
confirms that the disappearance of the endangered missing child 161  
has occurred. 162

(2) The local investigating law enforcement agency 163  
determines that the endangered missing child is under eighteen 164

years of age. 165

(3) The local investigating law enforcement agency 166  
determines that the disappearance poses a high risk for serious 167  
bodily harm or death to the endangered missing child. 168

(4) There is sufficient descriptive information about the 169  
endangered missing child and the circumstances surrounding the 170  
disappearance to indicate that activation of the alert will help 171  
locate the endangered missing child. 172

(D) Nothing in division (C) of this section prevents the 173  
activation of a local or regional emergency alert program that 174  
may impose different criteria for the activation of a local or 175  
regional plan. 176

(E) Any radio broadcast station, television broadcast 177  
station, or cable system participating in the statewide 178  
endangered missing child emergency alert program, and a 179  
director, officer, employee, or agent of a station or system 180  
participating in the program, is immune from liability for 181  
damages for any loss allegedly caused by or resulting from the 182  
station's or system's broadcast or cablecast of, or failure to 183  
broadcast or cablecast, any information pursuant to the 184  
statewide endangered missing child emergency alert program. 185

(F) No person shall knowingly make a false report that a 186  
child is missing and that leads to the implementation of the 187  
statewide endangered missing child emergency alert program 188  
created under this section or that leads to the implementation 189  
of a local or regional emergency alert program. Whoever violates 190  
this division is guilty of a felony of the fourth degree. 191

**Section 2.** That existing section 2919.23 of the Revised 192  
Code is hereby repealed. 193