

As Introduced

**136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026**

H. B. No. 927

Representative Williams

To amend sections 2907.07 and 2921.32 of the 1
Revised Code to expand the offenses of 2
importuning and obstructing justice. 3

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

Section 1. That sections 2907.07 and 2921.32 of the 4
Revised Code be amended to read as follows: 5

Sec. 2907.07. (A) (1) No person shall solicit a person who 6
is less than thirteen years of age to engage in sexual activity 7
with the offender, whether or not the offender knows the age of 8
such person. 9

(2) No person shall knowingly solicit another person who 10
the offender believes to be under eighteen years of age to 11
engage in sexual activity, regardless of the actual age of the 12
person solicited. 13

(B) (1) No person shall solicit another, not the spouse of 14
the offender, to engage in sexual conduct with the offender, 15
when the offender is eighteen years of age or older and four or 16
more years older than the other person, and the other person is 17
thirteen years of age or older but less than sixteen years of 18
age, whether or not the offender knows the age of the other 19
person. 20

(2) No person shall solicit another to engage in sexual 21
conduct with the offender, when the offender is eighteen years 22
of age or older and four or more years older than the other 23
person, the other person is sixteen or seventeen years of age 24
and a victim of a violation of section 2905.32 of the Revised 25
Code, and the offender knows or has reckless disregard of the 26
age of the other person. 27

(C) No person shall solicit a person who is less than 28
sixteen years of age to engage in sexual activity with the 29
offender when the person who is less than sixteen years of age 30
is substantially impaired because of a mental or physical 31
condition. 32

(D) No person shall solicit another by means of a 33
telecommunications device, as defined in section 2913.01 of the 34
Revised Code, to engage in sexual activity with the offender 35
when the offender is eighteen years of age or older and either 36
of the following applies: 37

(1) The other person is less than thirteen years of age, 38
and the offender knows that the other person is less than 39
thirteen years of age or is reckless in that regard. 40

(2) The other person is a law enforcement officer posing 41
as a person who is less than thirteen years of age, and the 42
offender believes that the other person is less than thirteen 43
years of age or is reckless in that regard. 44

(E) No person shall solicit another by means of a 45
telecommunications device, as defined in section 2913.01 of the 46
Revised Code, to engage in sexual activity with the offender 47
when the offender is eighteen years of age or older and either 48
of the following applies: 49

(1) The other person is thirteen years of age or older but less than sixteen years of age, the offender knows that the other person is thirteen years of age or older but less than sixteen years of age or is reckless in that regard, and the offender is four or more years older than the other person.

(2) The other person is a law enforcement officer posing as a person who is thirteen years of age or older but less than sixteen years of age, the offender believes that the other person is thirteen years of age or older but less than sixteen years of age or is reckless in that regard, and the offender is four or more years older than the age the law enforcement officer assumes in posing as the person who is thirteen years of age or older but less than sixteen years of age.

(F) Divisions (D) and (E) of this section apply to any solicitation that is contained in a transmission via a telecommunications device that either originates in this state or is received in this state.

(G) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of importuning.

(2) A violation of division (A) (2) of this section is a felony of the fourth degree. A violation of division ~~(A)~~(A) (1), (C), or (D) of this section is a felony of the third degree on a first offense, and, notwithstanding division (C) of section 2929.13 of the Revised Code, there is a presumption that a prison term shall be imposed as described in division (D) of section 2929.13 of the Revised Code. If the offender, in addition to soliciting the other person, arranged to meet the other person for the purpose of engaging in sexual activity, the court shall impose upon the offender as a mandatory prison term one of the prison terms prescribed in division (A) (3) (b) of

section 2929.14 of the Revised Code for a felony of the third 80
degree. 81

If the offender previously has been convicted of a 82
sexually oriented offense or a child-victim oriented offense, a 83
violation of division ~~(A)~~(A) (1), (C), or (D) of this section is 84
a felony of the second degree, and the court shall impose upon 85
the offender as a mandatory prison term one of the definite 86
prison terms prescribed in division (A) (2) (b) of section 2929.14 87
of the Revised Code for a felony of the second degree, except 88
that if the violation is committed on or after March 22, 2019, 89
the court shall impose as the minimum prison term for the 90
offense a mandatory prison term that is one of the minimum terms 91
prescribed in division (A) (2) (a) of that section for a felony of 92
the second degree. 93

(3) A violation of division (B) or (E) of this section is 94
a felony of the fifth degree on a first offense, and, 95
notwithstanding division (B) of section 2929.13 of the Revised 96
Code, there is a presumption that a prison term shall be imposed 97
as described in division (D) of section 2929.13 of the Revised 98
Code. The court shall impose upon the offender as a mandatory 99
prison term one of the prison terms prescribed in section 100
2929.14 of the Revised Code for a felony of the fifth degree if 101
both of the following apply: 102

(a) Either of the following applies: 103

(i) The offender is ten or more years older than the other 104
person. 105

(ii) Regarding a violation of division (E) (2) of this 106
section, a law enforcement officer posed as a person thirteen 107
years of age or older but less than sixteen years of age and the 108

offender is ten or more years older than the officer claimed to be. 109
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(b) In addition to soliciting the other person, the offender arranged to meet the other person for the purpose of engaging in sexual activity. 111
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(4) If the offender previously has been convicted of a sexually oriented offense or a child-victim oriented offense, a violation of division (B) or (E) of this section is a felony of the fourth degree, and the court shall impose upon the offender as a mandatory prison term one of the prison terms prescribed in section 2929.14 of the Revised Code for a felony of the fourth degree that is not less than twelve months in duration. 114
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Sec. 2921.32. (A) No person, with purpose to hinder the discovery, apprehension, prosecution, conviction, or punishment of another for crime or to assist another to benefit from the commission of a crime, and no person, with purpose to hinder the discovery, apprehension, prosecution, adjudication as a delinquent child, or disposition of a child for an act that if committed by an adult would be a crime or to assist a child to benefit from the commission of an act that if committed by an adult would be a crime, shall do any of the following: 121
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(1) Harbor or conceal the other person or child; 130

(2) Provide the other person or child with money, transportation, a weapon, a disguise, or other means of avoiding discovery or apprehension; 131
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(3) Warn the other person or child of impending discovery or apprehension; 134
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(4) Destroy or conceal physical evidence of the crime or act, or induce any person to withhold testimony or information 136
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or to elude legal process summoning the person to testify or	138
supply evidence;	139
(5) Communicate false information to any person;	140
(6) Prevent or obstruct any person, by means of force,	141
intimidation, or deception, from performing any act to aid in	142
the discovery, apprehension, or prosecution of the other person	143
or child;	144
<u>(7) Fail to immediately report to law enforcement</u>	145
<u>authorities knowledge that an individual who is eighteen years</u>	146
<u>of age or older is attempting to meet with another person who is</u>	147
<u>under eighteen years of age and more than four years younger</u>	148
<u>than the individual for the purpose of engaging in sexual</u>	149
<u>activity.</u>	150
(B) A person may be prosecuted for, and may be convicted	151
of or adjudicated a delinquent child for committing, a violation	152
of division (A) of this section regardless of whether the person	153
or child aided ultimately is apprehended for, is charged with,	154
is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or is adjudicated a	155
delinquent child for committing the crime or act the person or	156
child aided committed. The crime or act the person or child	157
aided committed shall be used under division (C) of this section	158
in determining the penalty for the violation of division (A) of	159
this section, regardless of whether the person or child aided	160
ultimately is apprehended for, is charged with, is convicted of,	161
pleads guilty to, or is adjudicated a delinquent child for	162
committing the crime or act the person or child aided committed.	163
(C) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of	164
obstructing justice.	165
(2) If the crime committed by the person aided is a	166

misdemeanor or if the act committed by the child aided would be 167
a misdemeanor if committed by an adult, obstructing justice is a 168
misdemeanor of the same degree as the crime committed by the 169
person aided or a misdemeanor of the same degree that the act 170
committed by the child aided would be if committed by an adult. 171

(3) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (C) (4), (5), 172
and (6) of this section, if the crime committed by the person 173
aided is a felony or if the act committed by the child aided 174
would be a felony if committed by an adult, obstructing justice 175
is a felony of the fifth degree. 176

(4) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (6) of 177
this section, if the crime committed by the person aided is 178
aggravated murder, murder, or a felony of the first or second 179
degree or if the act committed by the child aided would be one 180
of those offenses if committed by an adult and if the offender 181
knows or has reason to believe that the crime committed by the 182
person aided is one of those offenses or that the act committed 183
by the child aided would be one of those offenses if committed 184
by an adult, obstructing justice is a felony of the third 185
degree. 186

(5) If the crime or act committed by the person or child 187
aided is an act of terrorism, obstructing justice is one of the 188
following: 189

(a) Except as provided in division (C) (5) (b) of this 190
section, a felony of the second degree; 191

(b) If the act of terrorism resulted in the death of a 192
person who was not a participant in the act of terrorism, a 193
felony of the first degree. 194

(6) If the crime committed by the person is trafficking in 195

persons or if the act committed by the child aided would be	196
trafficking in persons if committed by an adult, obstructing	197
justice is a felony of the second degree.	198
(D) As used in this section:	199
(1) "Adult" and "child" have the same meanings as in	200
section 2151.011 of the Revised Code.	201
(2) "Delinquent child" has the same meaning as in section	202
2152.02 of the Revised Code.	203
(3) "Act of terrorism" has the same meaning as in section	204
2909.21 of the Revised Code.	205
Section 2. That existing sections 2907.07 and 2921.32 of	206
the Revised Code are hereby repealed.	207