As Introduced

135th General Assembly Regular Session 2023-2024

S. B. No. 127

Senators Kunze, Manning

A BILL

То	amend sections 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.04,	1
	2907.05, 2907.06, 2907.07, and 2945.42 of the	2
	Revised Code to eliminate the spousal exceptions	3
	for the offenses of rape, sexual battery,	4
	unlawful sexual conduct with a minor, gross	5
	sexual imposition, sexual imposition, and	6
	importuning and to permit a person to testify	7
	against the person's spouse in a prosecution for	8
	any of those offenses.	9

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

Section 1. That sections 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.04,	10
2907.05, 2907.06, 2907.07, and 2945.42 of the Revised Code be	11
amended to read as follows:	12
Gar. 2007 02 (7) (1) Na managa ahali amaga in assaul	1 0
Sec. 2907.02. (A)(1) No person shall engage in sexual	13
conduct with another who is not the spouse of the offender or	14
who is the spouse of the offender but is living separate and	15
apart from the offender, when any of the following applies:	16
(a) For the purpose of preventing resistance, the offender	17
substantially impairs the other person's judgment or control by	18
administering any drug, intoxicant, or controlled substance to	19

the other person	surreptitiously	or by	force,	threat	of	force,	20
or deception.							21

- (b) The other person is less than thirteen years of age, 22 whether or not the offender knows the age of the other person. 23
- (c) The other person's ability to resist or consent is

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 substantially impaired because of a mental or physical condition

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 or because of advanced age, and the offender knows or has

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 reasonable cause to believe that the other person's ability to

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 resist or consent is substantially impaired because of a mental

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 or physical condition or because of advanced age.

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- (2) No person shall engage in sexual conduct with another30when the offender purposely compels the other person to submit31by force or threat of force.32
- (B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of rape, a 33 felony of the first degree. If the offender under division (A) 34 (1)(a) of this section substantially impairs the other person's 35 judgment or control by administering any controlled substance, 36 as defined in section 3719.01 of the Revised Code, to the other 37 person surreptitiously or by force, threat of force, or 38 deception, the prison term imposed upon the offender shall be 39 one of the definite prison terms prescribed for a felony of the 40 first degree in division (A)(1)(b) of section 2929.14 of the 41 Revised Code that is not less than five years, except that if 42 the violation is committed on or after March 22, 2019, the court 43 shall impose as the minimum prison term for the offense a 44 mandatory prison term that is one of the minimum terms 45 prescribed for a felony of the first degree in division (A)(1) 46 (a) of section 2929.14 of the Revised Code that is not less than 47 five years. Except as otherwise provided in this division, 48 notwithstanding sections 2929.11 to 2929.14 of the Revised Code, 49

an offender under division (A)(1)(b) of this section shall be	50
sentenced to a prison term or term of life imprisonment pursuant	51
to section 2971.03 of the Revised Code. If an offender is	52
convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of division (A)(1)	53
(b) of this section, if the offender was less than sixteen years	54
of age at the time the offender committed the violation of that	55
division, and if the offender during or immediately after the	56
commission of the offense did not cause serious physical harm to	57
the victim, the victim was ten years of age or older at the time	58
of the commission of the violation, and the offender has not	59
previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of	60
this section or a substantially similar existing or former law	61
of this state, another state, or the United States, the court	62
shall not sentence the offender to a prison term or term of life	63
imprisonment pursuant to section 2971.03 of the Revised Code,	64
and instead the court shall sentence the offender as otherwise	65
provided in this division. If an offender under division (A)(1)	66
(b) of this section previously has been convicted of or pleaded	67
guilty to violating division (A)(1)(b) of this section or to	68
violating an existing or former law of this state, another	69
state, or the United States that is substantially similar to	70
division (A)(1)(b) of this section, if the offender during or	71
immediately after the commission of the offense caused serious	72
physical harm to the victim, or if the victim under division (A)	73
(1) (b) of this section is less than ten years of age, in lieu of	74
sentencing the offender to a prison term or term of life	75
imprisonment pursuant to section 2971.03 of the Revised Code,	76
except as otherwise provided in this division, the court may	77
impose upon the offender a term of life without parole. If the	78
court imposes a term of life without parole pursuant to this	79
division, division (F) of section 2971.03 of the Revised Code	80
applies, and the offender automatically is classified a tier III	81

sex offender/child-victim offender, as described in that
division. A court shall not impose a term of life without parole
on an offender for rape if the offender was under eighteen years
of age at the time of the offense.

- (C) A victim need not prove physical resistance to the offender in prosecutions under this section.
- (D) Evidence of specific instances of the victim's sexual activity, opinion evidence of the victim's sexual activity, and reputation evidence of the victim's sexual activity shall not be admitted under this section unless it involves evidence of the origin of semen, pregnancy, or disease, or the victim's past sexual activity with the offender, and only to the extent that the court finds that the evidence is material to a fact at issue in the case and that its inflammatory or prejudicial nature does not outweigh its probative value.

Evidence of specific instances of the defendant's sexual activity, opinion evidence of the defendant's sexual activity, and reputation evidence of the defendant's sexual activity shall not be admitted under this section unless it involves evidence of the origin of semen, pregnancy, or disease, the defendant's past sexual activity with the victim, or is admissible against the defendant under section 2945.59 of the Revised Code, and only to the extent that the court finds that the evidence is material to a fact at issue in the case and that its inflammatory or prejudicial nature does not outweigh its probative value.

(E) Prior to taking testimony or receiving evidence of any sexual activity of the victim or the defendant in a proceeding under this section, the court shall resolve the admissibility of the proposed evidence in a hearing in chambers, which shall be

held at or before preliminary hearing and not less than three	112
days before trial, or for good cause shown during the trial.	113
(F) Upon approval by the court, the victim may be	114
represented by counsel in any hearing in chambers or other	115
proceeding to resolve the admissibility of evidence. If the	116
victim is indigent or otherwise is unable to obtain the services	117
of counsel, the court, upon request, may appoint counsel to	118
represent the victim without cost to the victim.	119
(G) It is not a defense to a charge under division (A)(2)	120
of this section that the offender and the victim were married or	121
were cohabiting at the time of the commission of the offense.	122
Sec. 2907.03. (A) No person shall engage in sexual conduct	123
with another, not the spouse of the offender, when any of the	124
following apply:	125
(1) The offender knowingly coerces the other person to	126
submit by any means that would prevent resistance by a person of	127
ordinary resolution.	128
(2) The offender knows that the other person's ability to	129
appraise the nature of or control the other person's own conduct	130
is substantially impaired.	131
(3) The offender knows that the other person submits	132
because the other person is unaware that the act is being	133
committed.	134
(4) The offender knows that the other person submits	135
because the other person mistakenly identifies the offender as	136
the other person's spouse.	137
(5) The offender is the other person's natural or adoptive	138
parent, or a stepparent, or guardian, custodian, or person in	139

loco parentis of the other person.	140
(6) The other person is in custody of law or a patient in	141
a hospital or other institution, and the offender has	142
supervisory or disciplinary authority over the other person.	143
(7) The offender is a teacher, administrator, coach, or	144
other person in authority employed by or serving in a school for	145
which the state board of education prescribes minimum standards	146
pursuant to division (D) of section 3301.07 of the Revised Code,	147
the other person is enrolled in or attends that school, and the	148
offender is not enrolled in and does not attend that school.	149
(8) The other person is a minor, the offender is a	150
teacher, administrator, coach, or other person in authority	151
employed by or serving in an institution of higher education,	152
and the other person is enrolled in or attends that institution.	153
(9) The other person is a minor, and the offender is the	154
other person's athletic or other type of coach, is the other	155
person's instructor, is the leader of a scouting troop of which	156
the other person is a member, or is a person with temporary or	157
occasional disciplinary control over the other person.	158
(10) The offender is a mental health professional, the	159
other person is a mental health client or patient of the	160
offender, and the offender induces the other person to submit by	161
falsely representing to the other person that the sexual conduct	162
is necessary for mental health treatment purposes.	163
(11) The other person is confined in a detention facility,	164
and the offender is an employee of that detention facility.	165
(12) The other person is a minor, the offender is a	166
cleric, and the other person is a member of, or attends, the	167
church or congregation served by the cleric.	168

(13) The other person is a minor, the offender is a peace	169
officer, and the offender is more than two years older than the	170
other person.	171
(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of sexual	172
battery. Except as otherwise provided in this division, sexual	173
battery is a felony of the third degree. If the other person is	174
less than thirteen years of age, sexual battery is a felony of	175
the second degree, and the court shall impose upon the offender	176
a mandatory prison term equal to one of the definite prison	177
terms prescribed in division (A)(2)(b) of section 2929.14 of the	178
Revised Code for a felony of the second degree, except that if	179
the violation is committed on or after the effective date of	180
this amendment March 22, 2019, the court shall impose as the	181
minimum prison term for the offense a mandatory prison term that	182
is one of the minimum terms prescribed in division (A)(2)(a) of	183
that section for a felony of the second degree.	184
(C) As used in this section:	185
(1) "Cleric" has the same meaning as in section 2317.02 of	186
the Revised Code.	187
(2) "Detention facility" has the same meaning as in	188
section 2921.01 of the Revised Code.	189
(3) "Institution of higher education" means a state	190
institution of higher education defined in section 3345.011 of	191
the Revised Code, a private nonprofit college or university	192
located in this state that possesses a certificate of	193
authorization issued by the Ohio board of regents pursuant to	194
Chapter 1713. of the Revised Code, or a school certified under	195
Chapter 3332. of the Revised Code.	196
(4) "Peace officer" has the same meaning as in section	197

2935.01 of the Revised Code.	198
Sec. 2907.04. (A) No person who is eighteen years of age	199
or older shall engage in sexual conduct with another, who is not-	200
the spouse of the offender, when the offender knows the other	201
person is thirteen years of age or older but less than sixteen	202
years of age, or the offender is reckless in that regard.	203
(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of unlawful	204
sexual conduct with a minor.	205
(1) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (B)(2), (3),	206
and (4) of this section, unlawful sexual conduct with a minor is	207
a felony of the fourth degree.	208
(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(4) of	209
this section, if the offender is less than four years older than	210
the other person, unlawful sexual conduct with a minor is a	211
misdemeanor of the first degree.	212
(3) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(4) of	213
this section, if the offender is ten or more years older than	214
the other person, unlawful sexual conduct with a minor is a	215
felony of the third degree.	216
(4) If the offender previously has been convicted of or	217
pleaded guilty to a violation of section 2907.02, 2907.03, or	218
2907.04 of the Revised Code or a violation of former section	219
2907.12 of the Revised Code, unlawful sexual conduct with a	220
minor is a felony of the second degree.	221
Sec. 2907.05. (A) No person shall have sexual contact with	222
another, not the spouse of the offender; cause another, not the	223
spouse of the offender, to have sexual contact with the	224
offender; or cause two or more other persons to have sexual	225
contact when any of the following applies:	226

(1) The offender purposely compels the other person, or	227
one of the other persons, to submit by force or threat of force.	228
(2) For the purpose of preventing resistance, the offender	229
substantially impairs the judgment or control of the other	230
person or of one of the other persons by administering any drug,	231
intoxicant, or controlled substance to the other person	232
surreptitiously or by force, threat of force, or deception.	233
(3) The offender knows that the judgment or control of the	234
other person or of one of the other persons is substantially	235
impaired as a result of the influence of any drug or intoxicant	236
administered to the other person with the other person's consent	237
for the purpose of any kind of medical or dental examination,	238
treatment, or surgery.	239
(4) The other person, or one of the other persons, is less	240
than thirteen years of age, whether or not the offender knows	241
the age of that person.	242
(5) The ability of the other person to resist or consent	243
or the ability of one of the other persons to resist or consent	244
is substantially impaired because of a mental or physical	245
condition or because of advanced age, and the offender knows or	246
has reasonable cause to believe that the ability to resist or	247
consent of the other person or of one of the other persons is	248
substantially impaired because of a mental or physical condition	249
or because of advanced age.	250
(B) No person shall knowingly touch the genitalia of	251
another, when the touching is not through clothing, the other	252
person is less than twelve years of age, whether or not the	253
offender knows the age of that person, and the touching is done	254
with an intent to abuse, humiliate, harass, degrade, or arouse	255

or gratify the sexual desire of any person.	256
(C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of gross	257
sexual imposition.	258
(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, gross	259
sexual imposition committed in violation of division (A)(1),	260
(2), (3), or (5) of this section is a felony of the fourth	261
degree. If the offender under division (A)(2) of this section	262
substantially impairs the judgment or control of the other	263
person or one of the other persons by administering any	264
controlled substance, as defined in section 3719.01 of the	265
Revised Code, to the person surreptitiously or by force, threat	266
of force, or deception, gross sexual imposition committed in	267
violation of division (A)(2) of this section is a felony of the	268
third degree.	269
(2) Gross sexual imposition committed in violation of	270
division (A)(4) or (B) of this section is a felony of the third	271
degree. Except as otherwise provided in this division, for gross	272
sexual imposition committed in violation of division (A)(4) or	273
(B) of this section there is a presumption that a prison term	274
shall be imposed for the offense. The court shall impose on an	275
offender convicted of gross sexual imposition in violation of	276
division (A)(4) or (B) of this section a mandatory prison term,	277
as described in division (C)(3) of this section, for a felony of	278
the third degree if the offender previously was convicted of or	279
pleaded guilty to a violation of this section, rape, the former	280
offense of felonious sexual penetration, or sexual battery, and	281
the victim of the previous offense was less than thirteen years	282
of age.	283
(3) A mandatory prison term required under division (C)(2)	284
of this section shall be a definite term from the range of	285

prison	terms provided in division (A)(3)(a) of section 2929.14	286
of the	Revised Code for a felony of the third degree.	287

- (D) A victim need not prove physical resistance to the 288 offender in prosecutions under this section. 289
- (E) Evidence of specific instances of the victim's sexual 290 activity, opinion evidence of the victim's sexual activity, and 291 reputation evidence of the victim's sexual activity shall not be 292 admitted under this section unless it involves evidence of the 293 origin of semen, pregnancy, or sexually transmitted disease or 294 infection, or the victim's past sexual activity with the 295 offender, and only to the extent that the court finds that the 296 evidence is material to a fact at issue in the case and that its 297 inflammatory or prejudicial nature does not outweigh its 298 probative value. 299

Evidence of specific instances of the defendant's sexual 300 activity, opinion evidence of the defendant's sexual activity, 301 and reputation evidence of the defendant's sexual activity shall 302 not be admitted under this section unless it involves evidence 303 of the origin of semen, pregnancy, or sexually transmitted 304 disease or infection, the defendant's past sexual activity with 305 the victim, or is admissible against the defendant under section 306 2945.59 of the Revised Code, and only to the extent that the 307 court finds that the evidence is material to a fact at issue in 308 the case and that its inflammatory or prejudicial nature does 309 not outweigh its probative value. 310

(F) Prior to taking testimony or receiving evidence of any sexual activity of the victim or the defendant in a proceeding under this section, the court shall resolve the admissibility of the proposed evidence in a hearing in chambers, which shall be held at or before preliminary hearing and not less than three

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days before trial, or for good cause shown during the trial.	316
(G) Upon approval by the court, the victim may be	317
represented by counsel in any hearing in chambers or other	318
proceeding to resolve the admissibility of evidence. If the	319
victim is indigent or otherwise is unable to obtain the services	320
of counsel, the court, upon request, may appoint counsel to	321
represent the victim without cost to the victim.	322
Sec. 2907.06. (A) No person shall have sexual contact with	323
another, not the spouse of the offender; cause another, not the	324
spouse of the offender, to have sexual contact with the	325
offender; or cause two or more other persons to have sexual	326
contact when any of the following applies:	327
(1) The offender knows that the sexual contact is	328
offensive to the other person, or one of the other persons, or	329
is reckless in that regard.	330
(2) The offender knows that the other person's, or one of	331
the other person's, ability to appraise the nature of or control	332
the offender's or touching person's conduct is substantially	333
impaired.	334
(3) The offender knows that the other person, or one of	335
the other persons, submits because of being unaware of the	336
sexual contact.	337
(4) The other person, or one of the other persons, is	338
thirteen years of age or older but less than sixteen years of	339
age, whether or not the offender knows the age of such person,	340
and the offender is at least eighteen years of age and four or	341
more years older than such other person.	342
(5) The offender is a mental health professional, the	343
other person or one of the other persons is a mental health	344
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client or patient of the offender, and the offender induces the	345
other person who is the client or patient to submit by falsely	346
representing to the other person who is the client or patient	347
that the sexual contact is necessary for mental health treatment	348
purposes.	349
(B) No person shall be convicted of a violation of this	350
section solely upon the victim's testimony unsupported by other	351
evidence.	352
(C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of sexual	353
imposition, a misdemeanor of the third degree. If the offender	354
previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a	355
violation of this section or of section 2907.02, 2907.03,	356
2907.04, or 2907.05, or former section 2907.12 of the Revised	357
Code, a violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the first	358
degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of or	359
pleaded guilty to three or more violations of this section or	360
section 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.04, or 2907.05, or former section	361
2907.12 of the Revised Code, or of any combination of those	362
sections, a violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the	363
first degree and, notwithstanding the range of jail terms	364
prescribed in section 2929.24 of the Revised Code, the court may	365
impose on the offender a definite jail term of not more than one	366
year.	367
Sec. 2907.07. (A) No person shall solicit a person who is	368
less than thirteen years of age to engage in sexual activity	369
with the offender, whether or not the offender knows the age of	370
such person.	371
(B)(1) No person shall solicit another, not the spouse of	372
the offender, to engage in sexual conduct with the offender,	373

when the offender is eighteen years of age or older and four or

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more years older than the other person, and the other person is	375
thirteen years of age or older but less than sixteen years of	376
age, whether or not the offender knows the age of the other	377
person.	378
(2) No person shall solicit another, not the spouse of the	379
offender, to engage in sexual conduct with the offender, when	380
the offender is eighteen years of age or older and four or more	381
years older than the other person, the other person is sixteen	382
or seventeen years of age and a victim of a violation of section	383
2905.32 of the Revised Code, and the offender knows or has	384
reckless disregard of the age of the other person.	385
(C) No person shall solicit a person who is less than	386
sixteen years of age to engage in sexual activity with the	387
offender when the person who is less than sixteen years of age	388
is substantially impaired because of a mental or physical	389
condition.	390
(D) No person shall solicit another by means of a	391
telecommunications device, as defined in section 2913.01 of the	392
Revised Code, to engage in sexual activity with the offender	393
when the offender is eighteen years of age or older and either	394
of the following applies:	395
(1) The other person is less than thirteen years of age,	396
and the offender knows that the other person is less than	397
thirteen years of age or is reckless in that regard.	398
(2) The other person is a law enforcement officer posing	399
as a person who is less than thirteen years of age, and the	400
offender believes that the other person is less than thirteen	401
years of age or is reckless in that regard.	402

(E) No person shall solicit another by means of a

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telecommunications device, as defined in section 2913.01 of the	404
Revised Code, to engage in sexual activity with the offender	405
when the offender is eighteen years of age or older and either	406
of the following applies:	407
(1) The other person is thirteen years of age or older but	408
less than sixteen years of age, the offender knows that the	409
other person is thirteen years of age or older but less than	410
sixteen years of age or is reckless in that regard, and the	411
offender is four or more years older than the other person.	412
(2) The other person is a law enforcement officer posing	413
as a person who is thirteen years of age or older but less than	414
sixteen years of age, the offender believes that the other	415
person is thirteen years of age or older but less than sixteen	416
years of age or is reckless in that regard, and the offender is	417
four or more years older than the age the law enforcement	418
officer assumes in posing as the person who is thirteen years of	419
age or older but less than sixteen years of age.	420
(F) Divisions (D) and (E) of this section apply to any	421
solicitation that is contained in a transmission via a	422
telecommunications device that either originates in this state	423
or is received in this state.	424
(G)(1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of	425
importuning.	426
(2) A violation of division (A), (C), or (D) of this	427
section is a felony of the third degree on a first offense, and,	428
notwithstanding division (C) of section 2929.13 of the Revised	429
Code, there is a presumption that a prison term shall be imposed	430
as described in division (D) of section 2929.13 of the Revised	431
Code. If the offender, in addition to soliciting the other	432

person, arranged to meet the other person for the purpose of	433
engaging in sexual activity, the court shall impose upon the	434
offender as a mandatory prison term one of the prison terms	435
prescribed in division (A)(3)(b) of section 2929.14 of the	436
Revised Code for a felony of the third degree.	437
If the offender previously has been convicted of a	438
sexually oriented offense or a child-victim oriented offense, a	439
violation of division (A), (C), or (D) of this section is a	440
felony of the second degree, and the court shall impose upon the	441
offender as a mandatory prison term one of the definite prison	442
terms prescribed in division (A)(2)(b) of section 2929.14 of the	443
Revised Code for a felony of the second degree, except that if	444
the violation is committed on or after March 22, 2019, the court	445
shall impose as the minimum prison term for the offense a	446
mandatory prison term that is one of the minimum terms	447
prescribed in division (A)(2)(a) of that section for a felony of	448
the second degree.	449
(3) A violation of division (B) or (E) of this section is	450
a felony of the fifth degree on a first offense, and,	451
notwithstanding division (B) of section 2929.13 of the Revised	452
Code, there is a presumption that a prison term shall be imposed	453
as described in division (D) of section 2929.13 of the Revised	454
Code. The court shall impose upon the offender as a mandatory	455
prison term one of the prison terms prescribed in section	456
2929.14 of the Revised Code for a felony of the fifth degree if	457
both of the following apply:	458
(a) Either of the following applies:	459
(i) The offender is ten or more years older than the other	460

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person.

(ii) Regarding a violation of division (E)(2) of this	462
section, a law enforcement officer posed as a person thirteen	463
years of age or older but less than sixteen years of age and the	464
offender is ten or more years older than the officer claimed to	465
be.	466
(b) In addition to soliciting the other person, the	467

- (b) In addition to soliciting the other person, the 467 offender arranged to meet the other person for the purpose of 468 engaging in sexual activity.
- (4) If the offender previously has been convicted of a 470 sexually oriented offense or a child-victim oriented offense, a 471 violation of division (B) or (E) of this section is a felony of 472 the fourth degree, and the court shall impose upon the offender 473 as a mandatory prison term one of the prison terms prescribed in 474 section 2929.14 of the Revised Code for a felony of the fourth 475 degree that is not less than twelve months in duration. 476

Sec. 2945.42. No person is disqualified as a witness in a 477 criminal prosecution by reason of the person's interest in the 478 prosecution as a party or otherwise or by reason of the person's 479 conviction of crime. Husband and wife are competent witnesses to 480 testify in behalf of each other in all criminal prosecutions and 481 to testify against each other in all actions, prosecutions, and 482 proceedings for personal injury of either by the other, bigamy, 483 or failure to provide for, neglect of, or cruelty to their 484 children under eighteen years of age or their physically or 485 mentally handicapped child under twenty-one years of age. A 486 spouse may testify against his or her spouse in a prosecution 487 under a provision of sections 2903.11 to 2903.13, 2919.21, 488 2919.22, or 2919.25 of the Revised Code for cruelty to, neglect 489 of, or abandonment of such spouse, in a prosecution against his 490 or her spouse under section 2903.211 or 2911.2117 of the Revised 491

Code for the commission of the offense against the spouse who is	492
testifying, in a prosecution under section 2919.27 of the	493
Revised Code involving a protection order issued or consent	494
agreement approved pursuant to section 2919.26 or 3113.31 of the	495
Revised Code for the commission of the offense against the	496
spouse who is testifying, or in a prosecution under section	497
2907.02 of the Revised Code for the commission of rape, under	498
section 2907.03 of the Revised Code for the commission of sexual	499
battery, under section 2907.04 of the Revised Code for the	500
commission of unlawful sexual conduct with a minor, under	501
section 2907.05 of the Revised Code for the commission of gross	502
sexual imposition, under section 2907.06 of the Revised Code for	503
the commission of sexual imposition, under division (B)(2) of	504
section 2907.07 of the Revised Code for the commission of	505
importuning, or under former section 2907.12 of the Revised Code	506
for felonious sexual penetration against such spouse in a case	507
in which the offense can be committed against a spouse. Such	508
interest, conviction, or relationship may be shown for the	509
purpose of affecting the credibility of the witness. Husband or	510
wife shall not testify concerning a communication made by one to	511
the other, or act done by either in the presence of the other,	512
during coverture, unless the communication was made or act done	513
in the known presence or hearing of a third person competent to	514
be a witness, or in case of personal injury by either the	515
husband or wife to the other, or rape or the former offense of	516
felonious sexual penetration in a case in which the offense can	517
be committed against a spouse, or sexual battery, unlawful	518
sexual conduct with a minor, gross sexual imposition, sexual	519
imposition, importuning, public indecency, or bigamy, or failure	520
to provide for, or neglect or cruelty of either to their	521
children under eighteen years of age or their physically or	522
mentally handicapped child under twenty-one years of age,	523

violation of a protection order or consent agreement, or neglect	524
or abandonment of a spouse under a provision of those sections.	525
The presence or whereabouts of the husband or wife is not an act	526
under this section. The rule is the same if the marital relation	527
has ceased to exist.	528
Section 2. That existing sections 2907.02, 2907.03,	529
2907.04, 2907.05, 2907.06, 2907.07, and 2945.42 of the Revised	530
Code are hereby repealed.	531
Section 3. Section 2907.05 of the Revised Code is	532
presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended	533
by H.B. 343 and S.B. 288, both of the 134th General Assembly.	534
The General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division	535
(B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to	536
be harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation,	537
finds that the composite is the resulting version of the section	538
in effect prior to the effective date of the section as	539
presented in this act.	540