
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2227 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY SHUSTERMAN, WEBSTER, KHAN, KINSEY, MIHALEK, HILL-
EVANS, PROBST, BRIGGS, HOHENSTEIN, SCHLOSSBERG, CURRY,
PARKER, McANDREW, DONAHUE, SANCHEZ, MERSKI, CERRATO AND
DALEY, APRIL 17, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, APRIL 17, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in human trafficking, further
3 providing for victim protection during prosecution.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 3019(b) and (d)(1) of Title 18 of the
7 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

8 § 3019. Victim protection during prosecution.

9 * * *

10 (b) Affirmative defense.--[An individual who is charged with
11 any violation under section 5902 (relating to prostitution and
12 related offenses) may offer the defense at trial that he engaged
13 in the conduct charged because he was compelled to do so by
14 coercion or the use of or a threat to use unlawful force against
15 his person or the person of another, which a person of
16 reasonable firmness in his situation would have been unable to
17 resist.] A victim of human trafficking has an affirmative

1 defense for an offense committed as a direct result of the human
2 trafficking without regard to whether any person was prosecuted
3 or convicted for the human trafficking violation.

4 * * *

5 (d) Motion to vacate conviction.--

6 (1) An individual convicted under section 3503 (relating
7 to criminal trespass), 5503 (relating to disorderly conduct),
8 5506 (relating to loitering and prowling at night time), 5507
9 (relating to obstructing highways and other public passages)
10 or 5902 (relating to prostitution and related offenses) or an
11 offense for simple possession of a controlled substance
12 committed as a direct result of being a victim of human
13 trafficking may file a motion to vacate the conviction.

14 * * *

15 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.