

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 890 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY DUSH, PHILLIPS-HILL AND LAUGHLIN, AUGUST 16, 2023

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, AUGUST 16, 2023

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) of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is 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  
18 defense for an offense committed as a direct result of the human  
19 trafficking without regard to whether any person was prosecuted

1 or convicted for the human trafficking violation.

2 \* \* \*

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