

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 241 Session of 1999

INTRODUCED BY ORIE, CAWLEY, BELARDI, READSHAW, CORRIGAN, TIGUE, PRESTON, TRUE, THOMAS, E. Z. TAYLOR, DeLUCA, MICOZZIE, YOUNGBLOOD, CORNELL, TRELLO, VAN HORNE, RAMOS, C. WILLIAMS, M. COHEN, SOLOBAY, STEIL, ROBINSON, HARHAI, SCRIMENTI, BROWNE, PETRARCA AND CIVERA, FEBRUARY 2, 1999

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, FEBRUARY 2, 1999

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, further defining "abuse."

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

5 Section 1. The definition of "abuse" in section 6102(a) of
6 Title 23 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended to
7 read:

8 § 6102. Definitions.

9 (a) General rule.--The following words and phrases when used
10 in this chapter shall have the meanings given to them in this
11 section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Abuse." The occurrence of one or more of the following acts
13 between family or household members, sexual or intimate partners
14 or persons who share biological parenthood:

15 (1) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or
16 recklessly causing bodily injury, serious bodily injury,

1 rape, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, sexual assault,
2 statutory sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault,
3 indecent assault or incest with or without a deadly weapon.

4 (2) Placing another in reasonable fear of imminent
5 serious bodily injury.

6 (3) The infliction of false imprisonment pursuant to 18
7 Pa.C.S. § 2903 (relating to false imprisonment).

8 (4) Physically or sexually abusing minor children,
9 including such terms as defined in Chapter 63 (relating to
10 child protective services).

11 (5) Knowingly engaging in a course of conduct or
12 repeatedly committing acts toward another person, including
13 following the person, without proper authority, under
14 circumstances which place the person in reasonable fear of
15 bodily injury. The definition of this paragraph applies only
16 to proceedings commenced under this title and is inapplicable
17 to any criminal prosecutions commenced under Title 18
18 (relating to crimes and offenses).

19 (6) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or
20 recklessly causing injury by means of mental or psychological
21 intimidation.

22 * * *

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