CHAPTER 189

(House Bill 399)

AN ACT concerning

Rape and Sexual Offenses - Spousal Victims

FOR the purpose of altering the circumstances under which a person may be prosecuted for rape or certain sexual offenses if the victim is the person's legal spouse at the time of the commission of the alleged rape or sexual offense; and generally relating to authorizing prosecution of a person for rape or certain sexual offenses under certain circumstances.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments Section 462, 463, 464B, and 464C Annotated Code of Maryland (1987 Replacement Volume and 1988 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments Section 464D Annotated Code of Maryland (1987 Replacement Volume and 1988 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

462.

- (a) A person is guilty of rape in the first degree if the person engages in vaginal intercourse with another person by force or threat of force against the will and without the consent of the other person and:
- (1) Employs or displays a dangerous or deadly weapon or an article which the other person reasonably concludes is a dangerous or deadly weapon; or
- (2) Inflicts suffocation, strangulation, disfigurement, or serious physical injury upon the other person or upon anyone else in the course of committing the offense; or