

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 234 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY HARKINS, VEREB, COHEN, BISHOP, DUSH, SONNEY, D. COSTA, V. BROWN, READSHAW, CALTAGIRONE, THOMAS, BARRAR, HENNESSEY, BURNS, BAKER, ROZZI, SCHLOSSBERG, DONATUCCI, DIGIROLAMO, KINSEY, McNEILL, LONGIETTI, FRANKEL, TOEPEL, KIRKLAND, PETRI, WATSON, A. HARRIS, MILLARD, MAHONEY, WHEELAND, ROSS, GRELL, FARINA, HARHART, BROWNLEE, MAJOR, O'NEILL, DeLUCA, OBERLANDER, BIZZARRO, GIBBONS, MARSICO, SCHWEYER, GINGRICH, DEASY, GOODMAN, SCHLEGEL CULVER, HANNA, McCARTER, MURT, GILLEN, C. PARKER AND BOBACK, APRIL 10, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, APRIL 10, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of April 19 through 25, 2015, as "Crime
2 Victims' Rights Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Each year approximately 23 million Americans are
4 victimized by crime, 6.1 million of whom are victims of violent
5 crime; and

6 WHEREAS, The millions of survivors of crime and their
7 families are no less deserving of justice, rights, resources,
8 restoration and rehabilitation than the violent offenders who
9 victimize them; and

10 WHEREAS, Americans recognize that we make our homes,
11 neighborhoods and communities safer and stronger by serving
12 victims of crime and ensuring justice for all; and

13 WHEREAS, Crime victims play an indispensable role in bringing
14 offenders to justice; and

1 WHEREAS, In the United States Department of Justice, the
2 Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) was established to enhance the
3 capacity to assist crime victims and to promote justice and
4 healing for all victims of crimes; and

5 WHEREAS, Over the past two decades, crime victims and their
6 advocates have made unparalleled progress toward balancing the
7 scales of justice in the criminal justice system; and

8 WHEREAS, For many years, the OVC has helped lead communities
9 throughout this nation in its observances of "National Crime
10 Victims' Rights Week" in an effort to bolster public awareness
11 about the challenges crime victims face and to celebrate the
12 hard-won progress in victims' rights and services; and

13 WHEREAS, Victim service providers, criminal justice officials
14 and concerned citizens throughout this nation are joining
15 together to observe "National Crime Victims' Rights Week"; and

16 WHEREAS, The theme for this year's "Crime Victims' Rights
17 Week" is "Engaging Communities, Empowering Victims" for crime
18 victims' rights; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
20 week of April 19 through 25, 2015, as "Crime Victims' Rights
21 Week" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives reaffirm its
23 commitment to address victims' rights and criminal justice
24 issues.