

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 17

BY REPRESENTATIVE HILFERTY

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Recognizes April 18-24, 2021, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week in Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize April 18-24, 2021, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week in Louisiana.

3 WHEREAS, being a victim of crime and navigating the criminal justice system can
4 be a frightening and confusing experience; and

5 WHEREAS, progress in improving the treatment of crime victims has been made
6 through the efforts of thousands of victims and survivors who have turned their own
7 experiences into a force for positive change; and

8 WHEREAS, through these efforts, victims and survivors ensure that others can
9 receive justice, meaningful assistance, and compassionate treatment before the law; and

10 WHEREAS, since the passage of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984, and through the
11 dedicated work of advocates, lawmakers, and victim service providers, there is a growing
12 array of services and resources available to victims and their loved ones; and

13 WHEREAS, the rights of crime victims in Louisiana are codified under R.S.
14 46:1844, which provides for the following rights: to reasonable notice and to be present and
15 heard during all critical stages of pre- and post-conviction proceedings; to confer with the
16 prosecution prior to final disposition of the case; to refuse to be interviewed by the accused
17 or a representative of the accused; to review and comment on any presentence report; to a
18 reasonably prompt conclusion of the case; to seek restitution; and to be informed upon the
19 release from custody or the escape of the accused or the offender; and

1 WHEREAS, honoring the rights of victims, including the rights to be heard and to
2 be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect, and working to meet the needs of crime victims
3 help to rebuild trust in the criminal and social service systems; and

4 WHEREAS, individuals' trust in the compassion, understanding, and support of their
5 communities is achieved through sustained, deep-rooted, and coordinated outreach; and

6 WHEREAS, identifying, reaching, and serving all victims of crime, especially those
7 from groups that have less access to healing services and avenues to justice, is essential; and

8 WHEREAS, Louisiana's continued engagement with the challenges faced by victims
9 of crime will ensure that the progress made to date is not lost and that new ground is broken
10 to gain greater justice and healing for all victims; and

11 WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to
12 recommit to ensuring that accessible, appropriate, and trauma-informed services are offered
13 to all victims of crime.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
15 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize April 18-24, 2021, as National Crime
16 Victims' Rights Week in Louisiana.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 17 Original

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