
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 91 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, BAKER, WOZNIAK, KITCHEN, FERLO,
TEPLITZ, WASHINGTON, STACK, FONTANA, ERICKSON, RAFFERTY,
KASUNIC, WILLIAMS, YUDICHAK, PILEGGI, HUGHES, FARNESE,
ARGALL, GREENLEAF, SOLOBAY, BREWSTER, ALLOWAY, SCHWANK, COSTA
AND HUTCHINSON, APRIL 16, 2013

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 16, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of April 21 through 27, 2013, as "Crime
2 Victims' Rights Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, More than 18 million Americans are victims of crime
4 each year; and

5 WHEREAS, In addition to the victims, crime affects many more
6 people such as victims' families, friends and communities; and

7 WHEREAS, Crime exacts an emotional, physical, psychological
8 and financial toll on victims due to loss of loved ones,
9 financial savings, physical and mental health and a sense of
10 security; and

11 WHEREAS, More than 30 years of progress for crime victims is
12 due to the efforts of dedicated advocates and brave victims who
13 overcame shame, isolation and indifference to gain a voice,
14 rights and respect; and

15 WHEREAS, The progress that our nation has made in recognizing
16 crime's impact on victims and the determination of advocates and

1 survivors to provide rights and resources for victims is
2 commendable; and

3 WHEREAS, While victim assistance programs across the country
4 are reaching more victims and criminal justice officials are
5 honoring victims' rights more consistently, public understanding
6 of victims' rights remains minimal and our country's victim
7 services system remains fragmented, underfunded and
8 uncoordinated; and

9 WHEREAS, More work must be done to address the mental health
10 impact of crime and to meet the needs of underserved victims,
11 such as victims of nonviolent crime and terrorism; and

12 WHEREAS, By working together, our country can help victims of
13 crime reshape their destinies and ensure that they receive the
14 support they need, the respect they deserve and the rights they
15 have earned; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1981, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the
17 first "National Crime Victims' Rights Week"; and

18 WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an
19 opportunity to reshape the future for victims of crime by
20 honoring the past and reflecting on their hard-won victories,
21 and to recommit to insisting on better treatment for victims in
22 order to help them overcome the harm caused by crime; therefore
23 be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the week of April 21
25 through 27, 2013, as "Crime Victims' Rights Week" in
26 Pennsylvania.