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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 791 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY HARKINS, TOOIL, HENNESSEY, O'BRIEN, VEREB,  
THOMAS, BURNS, CALTAGIRONE, JAMES, MUSTIO, TOEPEL, BAKER,  
SAINATO, MURT, KINSEY, COHEN, KIM, ROZZI, O'NEILL, QUIGLEY,  
SCHLOSSBERG, DIGIROLAMO, KILLION, TAYLOR, WATSON, KIRKLAND,  
DUSH, SONNEY, V. BROWN, MENTZER, BIZZARRO, MARSICO, MILLARD,  
YOUNGBLOOD, HARHART, ROSS, D. COSTA, EVERETT, MILNE,  
GINGRICH, MAHONEY, PAYNE, FARINA, READSHAW, PETRI, GIBBONS,  
HARHAI, GOODMAN AND PHILLIPS-HILL, APRIL 7, 2016

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 7, 2016

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of April 10 through 16, 2016, as "Crime  
2 Victims' Rights Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, In 2014, at least 21 million Americans were  
4 victimized by crime, 5.4 million of whom were 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 three 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 "National Crime Victims'  
17 Rights Week" is "Serving Victims. Building Trust. Restoring  
18 Hope."; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
20 week of April 10 through 16, 2016, as "National Crime Victims'  
21 Rights 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.