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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 203 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY DELOZIER, KAUFFMAN, BARRAR, BIZZARRO, BOBACK,  
BROWN, BURNS, CALTAGIRONE, DEASY, DeLUCA, DIGIROLAMO, FEE,  
FREEMAN, HENNESSEY, HILL-EVANS, IRVIN, JAMES, KIRKLAND,  
KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MARKOSEK, MEHAFFIE, MILLARD, B. MILLER,  
MOUL, MULLINS, MURT, NEILSON, OBERLANDER, PICKETT, RAPP,  
READSHAW, SCHLOSSBERG, SONNEY, STEPHENS, THOMAS AND TOEPEL,  
APRIL 5, 2019

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 5, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of April 7 through 13, 2019, as "National  
2 Crime Victims' Rights Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, In 2015, nearly 845,000 crimes were reported to  
4 police in Pennsylvania, of which one-third were Part 1 crimes  
5 that include murder and non-negligent manslaughter, rape,  
6 robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor  
7 vehicle theft and arson; and

8 WHEREAS, While this is a slight improvement over the previous  
9 year, that means at least 750,000 Pennsylvanians were victimized  
10 by crime and more than 300,000 of them were victims of violent  
11 crime; and

12 WHEREAS, The General Assembly has repeatedly affirmed that  
13 the survivors of crime and their families are no less deserving  
14 of justice, rights, resources, restoration and rehabilitation  
15 than the violent offenders who victimize them; and

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

4       WHEREAS, Crime victims play an indispensable role in bringing  
5 offenders to justice; and

6       WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians are well served by the Office of  
7 Victim Advocate that was established by the General Assembly  
8 more than 20 years ago to assist crime victims and promote  
9 justice and healing for all victims of crimes; and

10       WHEREAS, Over the past two decades, crime victims and their  
11 advocates in every county of this Commonwealth have made  
12 unparalleled progress toward balancing the scales of justice in  
13 the criminal justice system; and

14       WHEREAS, For many years, the Office of Victim Advocate has  
15 helped lead communities throughout this Commonwealth in its  
16 observance of "National Crime Victims' Rights Week" to bolster  
17 public awareness about the challenges that crime victims face  
18 and to celebrate the hard-won progress in victims' rights and  
19 services; and

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

23       WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians should be made aware of not only the  
24 strides that have been made to serve victims but the range of  
25 services that are available should they become a victim;  
26 therefore be it

27       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
28 week of April 7 through 13, 2019, as "National Crime Victims'  
29 Rights Week" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

30       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives reaffirm its

- 1 commitment to address victims' rights and criminal justice
- 2 issues through the passage of appropriate legislation.