

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 45

Introduced by Assembly Member Perea

April 4, 2011

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 45—Relative to Crime Victims’ Rights Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 45, as introduced, Perea. Crime Victims’ Rights Week.

This measure would declare the week of April 10, 2011, to April 16, 2011, inclusive, as Crime Victims’ Rights Week.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Violent crime continues to exist in California, and
2 crime in one part of the state, or crime against one person, affects
3 our entire sense of well-being; and
4 WHEREAS, All Californians are affected by crime, not just the
5 victims of violent crime; and
6 WHEREAS, The most effective aid that can be provided to
7 victims of crime is to prevent crime from happening in the first
8 place; and
9 WHEREAS, Since 1981, National Crime Victims’ Rights Week
10 has raised awareness of the special needs of crime victims; and
11 WHEREAS, This year, the theme for this week is the
12 commemoration of 30 years of National Crime Victims’ Rights
13 Week; and
14 WHEREAS, 2011 is a landmark year for crime victims and
15 survivors, as well as those who serve them; and

1 WHEREAS, The respect and protection of victims' rights within
2 the legal process is one of the most critical components of an
3 effective criminal justice system; and

4 WHEREAS, Victims and witnesses of crime require special
5 attention to ensure that they are thoroughly informed about, and
6 effectively participate in, the criminal justice system; and

7 WHEREAS, To the maximum extent allowed by law, victims
8 of violent crime should receive compensation for their losses; and

9 WHEREAS, Each day thousands of victims and witnesses
10 receive assistance from victim support organizations,
11 victim-witness assistance centers, private service providers, and
12 state and local governments; and

13 WHEREAS, The criminal justice system in this state must persist
14 in its effort to better coordinate and improve the quality of services
15 provided to victims and witnesses; and

16 WHEREAS, California citizens enshrined victims' rights in the
17 California Constitution in 1982 through the passage of Proposition
18 8, the Crime Victims' Bill of Rights; and

19 WHEREAS, California citizens reaffirmed and afforded
20 additional rights to victims in the California Constitution and in
21 California law in 2008 through the passage of Proposition 9, the
22 Victims' Bill of Rights Act of 2008: Marsy's Law; and

23 WHEREAS, Each year, the observance of National Crime
24 Victims' Rights Week focuses on the problems confronting victims
25 of crime and the services available to support these victims; and

26 WHEREAS, The remembrances observed during National Crime
27 Victims' Rights Week promote awareness of victims' issues and
28 acknowledge the combined efforts of citizens, the government,
29 and the criminal justice system to improve victims' services in
30 California; now, therefore, be it

31 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
32 *thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby recognizes the*
33 *week of April 10, 2011, through April 16, 2011, inclusive, as Crime*
34 *Victims' Rights Week in California; and be it further*

35 *Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies*
36 *of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.*

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