

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 29, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 59

Introduced by Assembly Members Nielsen and Ma
(Coauthors: Senators Correa and Denham)

April 13, 2009

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 59—Relative to Crime Victims’ Rights Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 59, as amended, Nielsen. Crime Victims’ Rights Week.

This measure would recognize the week of April 26, 2009, through May 2, 2009, 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 against one person, affects our
3 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 taking place 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, The theme for this commemoration of National
12 Crime Victims’ Rights Week is “25 Years of Rebuilding Lives:
13 Celebrating the Victims of Crime Act”; and

1 WHEREAS, 2009 is a landmark year for crime victims and
2 survivors and those who serve them; and

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

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

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

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

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

18 WHEREAS, California citizens enshrined victims' rights in the
19 California Constitution in 1982 through the passage of Proposition
20 8, the Crime Victims' Bill of Rights; and

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

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

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

33 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
34 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby recognizes the
35 week of April 26, 2009, through May 2, 2009, as Crime Victims'
36 Rights Week in California; and be it further

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

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