

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 30, 2009

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: Assembly Members Adams, Ammiano, Anderson, Arambula, Bass, Beall, Bill Berryhill, Tom Berryhill, Blakeslee, Block, Blumenfield, Brownley, Buchanan, Caballero, Charles Calderon, Chesbro, Conway, Cook, Coto, Davis, De La Torre, De Leon, DeVore, Duvall, Emmerson, Eng, Evans, Feuer, Fletcher, Fong, Fuentes, Fuller, Furutani, Gaines, Galgiani, Garrick, Gilmore, Hagman, Hall, Harkey, Hayashi, Hernandez, Hill, Huber, Huffman, Jeffries, Jones, Krekorian, Lieu, Logue, Bonnie Lowenthal, Mendoza, Monning, Nava, Nestande, Niello, John A. Perez, V. Manuel Perez, Portantino, Price, Ruskin, Salas, Saldana, Silva, Skinner, Solorio, Swanson, Torlakson, Torres, Torrico, Tran, and Yamada)**

**(Coauthors: Senators Correa and Denham)**

April 13, 2009

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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

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

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

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

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

24 WHEREAS, Each day, thousands of victims and witnesses  
25 receive assistance from victim support organizations,  
26 victim-witness assistance centers, private service providers, and  
27 state and local governments; and

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

31 WHEREAS, California citizens enshrined victims' rights in the  
32 California Constitution in 1982 through the passage of Proposition  
33 8, the Crime Victims' Bill of Rights; and

34 WHEREAS, California citizens reaffirmed and afforded  
35 additional rights to victims in the California Constitution and under  
36 California Law in 2008 through the passage of Proposition 9, the  
37 Victims' Bill of Rights Act of 2008: Marsy's Law; and

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

1 WHEREAS, The remembrances observed during National Crime  
2 Victims' Rights Week promote awareness of victim issues and  
3 acknowledge the combined efforts of citizens, government, and  
4 the criminal justice system to improve victims' services in  
5 California; now, therefore, be it

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

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