

By: Keel

H.R. No. 942

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, American citizens have joined together annually for  
2 the past 25 years to recognize the needs and rights of crime victims  
3 and survivors during National Crime Victims' Rights Week each  
4 April; and

5           WHEREAS, The silver anniversary of this important event  
6 provides an opportunity to reflect on the devastating impact of  
7 crime and terrorism on victims and on the country, and to strengthen  
8 our national resolve to ensure that victims' needs are identified  
9 and addressed; and

10           WHEREAS, President Ronald Reagan first declared National  
11 Crime Victims' Rights Week in 1981 in order to focus our nation's  
12 attention on the plight of crime victims, and since that time the  
13 crime victim assistance field has expanded from a handful of  
14 programs to include more than 10,000 community-based and justice  
15 system programs as well as over 32,000 federal and state statutes  
16 that define and protect victims' rights; and

17           WHEREAS, America, as a nation, and we, as Texans, recognize  
18 that justice is not served until crime victims are served, that  
19 crime and violence in our state and in our country affect us all,  
20 and that victims' rights are a critical component of the principle  
21 of "justice for all"; and

22           WHEREAS, Justice cannot truly be served until all those hurt  
23 by crime--our mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, sisters and  
24 brothers, and neighbors and friends--are provided support and

1 assistance in the aftermath of victimization; and

2 WHEREAS, Despite impressive progress in the past 25 years,  
3 many challenges remain to ensure that all crime victims and  
4 survivors are treated with dignity and respect, that they are  
5 recognized as key participants within our systems of justice, and  
6 that they are afforded services that offer them help and hope; and

7 WHEREAS, The citizens of Texas recognize that we serve  
8 justice by serving victims of crime and that by helping victims and  
9 survivors of crime, we help make our homes, our neighborhoods, our  
10 communities, and our entire nation stronger, safer, and more  
11 secure; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby recognize the week of April 10-16, 2005, as  
14 Texas Crime Victims' Rights Week and that victims of crime as well  
15 as those who serve them be honored this week and throughout the  
16 year.