

**STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE**

2024

Source
HCR 16

**Legislative
Resolve No.**
22



Designating April 21 - 27, 2024, as Crime Victims' Rights Week.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS, throughout the country, millions of people of all ages and from all cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds are victimized by crime each year; and

WHEREAS among those victimized by crime are family members, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and community members, who are often reluctant to share their experiences and may not be publicly identified; and

WHEREAS society must compassionately and appropriately support victims and survivors of crime while also holding offenders accountable; and

WHEREAS all victims of crime deserve support and encouragement as the victims recover and move forward with their lives; and

WHEREAS specialized victim assistance programs provide help and support to victims of all types of crimes, including murder, attempted murder, sexual assault, sexual abuse of minors, sex and human trafficking, abuse and neglect, stalking, driving under the influence, arson, and assault; and

WHEREAS the Alaska State Legislature applauds and acknowledges the progress the

state has made in safeguarding victims' rights, but also recognizes that more is required to ensure that victims of crime are treated with dignity and respect and provided with opportunities to regain a sense of value and security; and

WHEREAS Crime Victims' Rights Week provides the Alaska State Legislature with an opportunity to recognize the effects of crime on communities around the state, to celebrate the survivors and the advocates who fight for services and treatment for victims of crime, and to recommit to ensuring that accessible, appropriate, and trauma-informed services are offered to all victims of crime; and

WHEREAS the Alaska State Legislature is committed to protecting and supporting victims of crime by strictly adhering to the constitutional protections for crime victims as declared in art. I, secs. 12 and 24, of the Constitution of the State of Alaska;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature designates April 21 - 27, 2024, as Crime Victims' Rights Week in the state and encourages all residents of the state to join in making the state the safest state in the country, to reduce victim trauma in the state's criminal justice system, and to ensure victims of crime are supported, protected, and given proper assistance to heal as victims look toward a hopeful future.