

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE**

**Introduced: 4/18/24**

**Referred: Rules**

**A RESOLUTION**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

16 **WHEREAS** the Alaska State Legislature applauds and acknowledges the progress the

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

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

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

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