

1 SJR75
2 184659-2
3 By Senators Holtzclaw, Albritton, Allen, Beasley, Blackwell,
4 Brewbaker, Bussman, Chambliss, Coleman-Madison, Dial, Dunn,
5 Figures, Glover, Hightower, Holley, Livingston, Marsh,
6 McClendon, Melson, Orr, Pittman, Reed, Ross, Sanders, Sanford,
7 Scofield, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smith, Smitherman, Stutts,
8 Waggoner, Ward, Whatley and Williams
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 06-APR-17

1 SJR75

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4 ENROLLED, SJR75,

5 RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK
6 APRIL 2-8, 2017.

7
8 WHEREAS, Americans are the victims of more than 20
9 million crimes each year, affecting individuals and
10 communities; and

11 WHEREAS, providing victims with knowledge of their
12 rights and available services further strengthens their
13 ability to recover by restoring a sense of self-empowerment;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, a trauma-informed response to victims
16 promotes healing and fosters strength in survivors; and

17 WHEREAS, unaddressed trauma from victimization
18 weakens the resilience of victims and their communities,
19 impeding the ability to withstand future trauma; and

20 WHEREAS, victims who feel understood and supported
21 are more likely to disclose their victimization, seek
22 services, and participate in the justice process; and

23 WHEREAS, a multidisciplinary response, involving
24 collaboration among victim service professionals, criminal
25 justice officials, legal professionals, medical and mental

1 health providers, and community leaders is essential in
2 reaching and serving all victims, especially those who are
3 marginalized, have disabilities, or live in remote locations;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, the State of Alabama is home to the
6 National Children's Advocacy Center, the first in the world,
7 which has served as a model for the development of more than
8 1,000 Children's Advocacy Centers throughout the United States
9 and in 27 other countries throughout the world; and

10 WHEREAS, strengthening the multidisciplinary
11 response by bringing together diverse skills, perspectives,
12 and understanding in the service of victims also serves to
13 build the resilience of responders, by strengthening
14 confidence in their roles, abilities, and sense of
15 contribution; and

16 WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April
17 2-8, 2017, provides an opportunity to recommit to ensuring
18 that all victims of crime, especially those who prove
19 challenging to reach or serve, are afforded their rights and
20 receive a trauma-informed response; and

21 WHEREAS, this body is hereby dedicated to
22 strengthening victims and survivors in the aftermath of crime,
23 building resilience in our communities and our victim
24 responders, and working for justice for all victims and
25 survivors; now therefore,

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
2 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we do hereby proclaim April
3 2-8, 2017, as Crime Victims' Rights Week and reaffirm our
4 commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice
5 response that assists all victims of crime during Crime
6 Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we hereby express our
8 sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community
9 members, victim service providers, and criminal justice
10 professionals who are committed to improving the response to
11 all victims of crime so they may find relevant assistance,
12 support, justice, and peace.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR75

Senate 06-APR-17

I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Adopted: 13-APR-17

By: Senator Holtzclaw