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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, In 1982, the President's Task Force on Victims of
3 Crime envisioned a national commitment to a more equitable and
4 supportive response to victims; and

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WHEREAS, The first Crime Victims Week, later renamed
6 National Crime Victims' Rights Week, was started to celebrate
7 the victims' rights movement; and

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WHEREAS, Crime and violence can leave harm on any person
9 and community, regardless of age, national origin, race,
10 creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, immigration, or
11 economic status; and

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WHEREAS, A new movement of diverse survivors of crime from
13 communities most harmed and least helped has joined together
14 in Illinois and throughout the country to create healing
15 communities and shape public policy; and

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WHEREAS, For too long the voices and experiences of these
17 diverse survivors have been ignored, leading to policies and
18 increased justice system spending that fails to meet the needs
19 of crime victims or stop the cycle of crime; and

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WHEREAS, Most victims do not get the kind of help needed to

1 heal; and

2 WHEREAS, Only 8% of all victims of violence receive direct
3 assistance from a victim service agency, and this drops to 4%
4 when the crime is unreported, which is the case for more than
5 half of all violent crimes; and

6 WHEREAS, Crime survivors know best about the existing gaps
7 to recovery and how to bridge them and understand what their
8 communities need to be healthy and safe; and

9 WHEREAS, Crime survivors want a safety and justice system
10 that works and prioritizes prevention, rehabilitation, and
11 trauma recovery; and

12 WHEREAS, With the unwavering support of their communities,
13 survivors are empowered to face their grief, loss, fear,
14 anger, and hope, turning their healing into action; and

15 WHEREAS, Providing services that help victims and their
16 communities recover stops the cycle of harm and supports
17 thriving communities; and

18 WHEREAS, It is essential for crime survivors to have input
19 and influence in discussions of public safety and criminal
20 justice policy; and

1 WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, marked this
2 year from April 23 to April 29, 2023, provides an opportunity
3 to recommit to ensuring that all victims of crime, especially
4 those who are from communities most impacted by crime, are
5 policy stakeholders and are provided with what they need to
6 recover; and

7 WHEREAS, Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice, a
8 flagship project of Alliance for Safety and Justice, is
9 dedicated to supporting the healing of survivors and the
10 leadership they can provide to build safer and healthier
11 communities; and

12 WHEREAS, Survivors Speak, a yearly gathering during
13 National Crime Victims' Rights Week, elevates the voices of
14 diverse crime survivors to ensure their experiences shape
15 public safety and justice policies; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
17 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
18 we commend the work being done by Crime Survivors for Safety
19 and Justice to prevent people from becoming victims and to
20 assist all survivors in the recovery from crime and trauma;
21 and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice.