

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

4 HOUSE

5 RESOLUTION 1009

By: Biggs, Sanders, West
(Josh), McDugle and
Martinez

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9 AS INTRODUCED

10 A Resolution honoring the men, women and children who
11 have been victimized in the State of Oklahoma;
12 recognizing National Crime Victims' Rights Week;
13 honoring the strength of victims as they work to
14 overcome adversity; declaring April 2-8, 2017, as
15 National Crime Victims' Week; and directing
16 distribution.

17 WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week is April 2-8, 2017;

18 and

19 WHEREAS, the theme this year for National Crime Victims' Rights
20 Week is "Strength, Resilience, Justice"; and

21 WHEREAS, advocates believe all victims deserve equal rights
22 throughout the judicial system; and

23 WHEREAS, the rights of victims being pursued aim to provide
24 coequal protections that are no more and no less than the rights
afforded to those accused and convicted of crimes; and

1 WHEREAS, consideration, awareness and a voice for victims are
2 central to the remembrance of victims during National Crime Victims'
3 Rights Week; and

4 WHEREAS, according to recently released statistics by the
5 Federal Bureau of Investigation, Oklahoma experienced 16,506 violent
6 crimes in 2015. These crimes include 234 murders and nonnegligent
7 manslaughters, 1,849 reports of rape, 3,005 robberies and 11,418
8 aggravated assaults; and

9 WHEREAS, Oklahoma agrees that victims should always be treated
10 with fairness and respect throughout the criminal justice process,
11 protected from the defendant, provided reasonable opportunities to
12 be heard at public proceedings regarding his or her case, and given
13 a voice throughout each process of the case; and

14 WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week serves to recognize
15 the needs of crime victims and those statewide advocacy
16 organizations that are dedicated to guaranteeing victims' rights.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
18 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 56TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

19 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives hereby proclaims the
20 week of April 2-8, 2017, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

21 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives will join efforts
22 with advocacy organizations throughout the State of Oklahoma to
23 continue recognizing and supporting victims' rights.

1 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives reaffirms its
2 commitment to help protect the rights of all Oklahoma crime victims,
3 year-round.

4 THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Victim
5 Services Unit of the Office of the Attorney General.

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7 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.
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