

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING

ACR 123 (Seyarto)

As Introduced January 19, 2022

Majority vote

**SUMMARY**

Recognizes April 24, 2022, through April 30, 2022, inclusive, as Crime Victims' Rights Week in California.

**Major Provisions**

- 1) Since 1981, National Crime Victims' Rights Week has raised awareness of the special needs of crime victims. Each year, the observance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week focuses on the problems confronting victims of crime and the services available to support these victims.
- 2) This year, the theme for this week is "Rights, access, equity, for all victims."
- 3) The 2022 theme for National Crime Victims' Rights Week underscores the importance of helping crime survivors find their justice by enforcing victims' rights, expanding access to services, and ensuring equity and inclusion for all. We all have a part to play in reaching crime victims, especially those in marginalized communities, and supporting them on their healing journey.
- 4) California has been an innovator in the victims' rights movement, establishing the first crime victim compensation program in the nation in 1965, Women's Advocates and Haven House in Pasadena established the first shelters for battered women in the nation in 1976, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving was founded in 1980 with the establishment of a chapter in Sacramento.
- 5) California citizens enshrined victims' rights in the California Constitution in 1982 through the passage of Proposition 8, the Victims' Bill of Rights. California citizens reaffirmed and afforded additional rights to victims in the California Constitution and in California law in 2008 through the passage of Proposition 9, the Victims' Bill of Rights Act of 2008: Marsy's Law.
- 6) The criminal justice system in this state must persist in its effort to better coordinate and improve the quality of services provided to victims and witnesses.
- 7) The remembrances observed during National Crime Victims' Rights Week promote awareness of victims' issues and acknowledge the combined efforts of citizens, the government, and the criminal justice system to improve victims' services in California.

**COMMENTS**

**According to the Author**

ACR 123 recognizes the week of April 24th through April 30th as Crime Victims' Rights Week. This week serves to promote and raise awareness about crime victims' rights, protections, and

services as they seek justice, as well as recognize the efforts of citizens and members of the criminal justice system who offer support.

**Arguments in Support**

None on file

**Arguments in Opposition**

None on file

**FISCAL COMMENTS**

No fiscal impact

**VOTES****ASM RULES: 8-0-3**

**YES:** Cooley, Waldron, Bennett, Mike Fong, Gipson, Lee, Maienschein, Villapudua

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Flora, Mathis, Blanca Rubio

**UPDATED**

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