



SPONSOR: Sen. McBride on behalf of all Senators &
Rep. K. Williams on behalf of all Representatives

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17

RECOGNIZING APRIL 2-8, 2017, AS "CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, Americans are the victims of more than 20 million crimes each year, affecting individuals and
2 communities;

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

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

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

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

10 WHEREAS, a multidisciplinary response, involving collaboration among victim service professionals, criminal
11 justice officials, legal professionals, medical and mental health providers, and community leaders is essential to reach and
12 serve all victims – especially those who are marginalized, have disabilities, or live in remote locations; and

13 WHEREAS, strengthening the multidisciplinary response – bringing diverse skills, perspectives, and
14 understandings together in the service of victims – also serves to build the resilience of those responders, by strengthening
15 the confidence in their roles, abilities, and a sense of contrition; and

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

19 WHEREAS, the General Assembly is hereby dedicated to strengthening victims and survivors in the aftermath of
20 crime, building resilience in our communities and our victims responders, and working for justice for all victims and
21 survivors.

22 NOW, THEREFORE:

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 149th General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of
24 Representatives concurring therein, that April 2-8, 2017, is hereby recognized as “Crime Victims’ Rights Week” in the
25 State of Delaware.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 149th General Assembly reaffirms Delaware’s commitment to create a
27 victim service and criminal justice response that assists all victims of crime during Crime Victims’ Rights Week and
28 throughout the year; and to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim service
29 providers, and criminal justice professionals who are committed to improving our response to all victims of crime so that
30 they may find relevant assistance, support, justice, and peace.

SYNOPSIS

This Concurrent Resolution recognizes April 2-8, 2017, as “Crime Victims’ Rights Week” in Delaware.

Author: Senator McBride