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

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

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17 WHEREAS, For too long the voices and experiences of these  
18 diverse survivors have been ignored, leading to policies and  
19 increased justice system spending that fails to meet the needs  
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 percent of all victims of violence receive  
3 direct assistance from a victim service agency, and this drops  
4 to 4 percent when the crime is unreported, the case for more  
5 than 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 18-24, 2021, provides an opportunity to  
3 recommit to ensuring that all victims of crime, especially  
4 those who are from communities most impacted by crime, are  
5 policy stakeholders and 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 elevates the voices of diverse  
13 crime survivors to ensure their experiences shape public  
14 safety and justice policies; therefore, be it

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

21           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice.