



H.RES. 1053 – SUPPORTING THE MISSION AND GOALS OF NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK IN ORDER TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE RIGHTS, NEEDS, AND CONCERNS OF VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF CRIME IN THE UNITED STATES

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1053 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Jim Costa (D-CA) on March 14, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1053 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on April 15, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 1053 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Supports the mission and goals of the 2008 National Crime Victims' Rights Week in order to increase public awareness of the impact of crime on victims and survivors of crime, and of the rights and needs of such victims and survivors; and
- Directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Office for Victims of Crime in the Department of Justice.

BACKGROUND

According to the Department of Justice, in the U.S. in 2005, there were 5.2 million victims of violent crime. Victims reported the offender(s) as being armed in 24% of these cases, with only an estimated 47% of all violent crimes actually reported. Roughly 899,000 children and 1.5 million teenagers were victims of neglect or abuse in 2005. Of the violent crimes reported by teenagers, 175,391 were violent robberies and 73,354 were sexual assault and rape.

Since 1984, the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) has collected \$8 billion in fines, fees, and assessments on individuals convicted of Federal crimes to support crime victim compensation and victim assistance programs nationwide. There are over 10,000 system-based and community-based victim assistance programs that provide interventions, support, and justice system advocacy to crime victims and survivors, including 4,400 programs that receive VOCA funding.

STAFF CONTACT

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