

No. R-182. House concurrent resolution recognizing the underlying importance of Vermont Crime Victims Rights Week and of assisting the victims and survivors of crimes.

(H.C.R.137)

Offered by: Representatives Wizowaty of Burlington, Donaghy of Poultney, French of Shrewsbury, Grad of Moretown, Koch of Barre Town, Lippert of Hinesburg, Marek of Newfane, Martin of Springfield, Reis of St. Johnsbury and Waite-Simpson of Essex

Whereas, National Crime Victims Rights Week will be observed this year from April 10–16, with 2011 marking the 18th annual Vermont Crime Victims Rights Week, and

Whereas, crime victims suffer violation of their persons, property, and trust, and each year, 70,000 Vermonters report being victims of crime, and

Whereas, policymakers in Vermont have recognized and embraced the need to empower crime victims and seek to make them the center of state policy in our criminal and juvenile justice systems, and

Whereas, members of the clergy, educators, employers, medical professionals, victim services professionals, and advocates all work to support and help victims of crime in their recovery, and

Whereas, within Vermont, important public and private partnerships have been forged among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, allied professionals, and social service providers to ensure that crime victims are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve, and

Whereas, this year, it is appropriate to recognize the significant contributions to crime prevention of criminal justice and juvenile service professionals and victims and survivors of crime, and

Whereas, Anera Foco, Skip Gates, Clark Sheldon, Aimee Stearns, Amy Torchia, and Diane Wheeler exemplify the best of Vermonters who are working on behalf of victims and survivors of crime and are the recipients of this year's Annual Crime Victim Service Awards in recognition of their unique talents, significant contributions, dedication, and advocacy on behalf of victims of crime across the state, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the importance of Vermont Crime Victims Rights Week and of assisting the victims and survivors of crimes, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Judy Rex, Executive Director of the State of Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services in Waterbury.