

RESOLUTION ON VICTIMS' RIGHTS

Whereas, the Hawai`i Republican Party platform speaks to our *Liberty*;

Whereas, HR1140 was introduced to the 111th Congress on February 24, 2010, by the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus supporting the mission and goals of 2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week to increase public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of victims and survivors of crime in the United States, no matter their country of origin or their creed, and to commemorate the National Crime Victims' Rights Week theme of "Crime Victims' Rights: Fairness. Dignity. Respect;"

Whereas, over 25,000,000 individuals in the United States are victims of crime each year, including over 6,000,000 individuals who are victims of violent crime;

Whereas, a just society acknowledges the impact of crime on individuals, families, neighborhoods, and communities by ensuring that rights, resources, and services are available to help rebuild the lives of victims;

Whereas, in reference to the Hawai`i Republican Party platform, the victim's *Liberty* is infringed upon by the offender in a criminal act and government must do everything it can to protect, restore and reintegrate the victim back into society;

Whereas, the victim's voice has been lost in our current local government and political system as the rights of the offender and his/her reunification with family overshadow the rights of the victim and the long road to recovery and healing;

Whereas, although our nation has steadily expanded rights, protections, and services for victims of crime, too many victims are still not able to realize the hope and promise of these expanded rights, protections, and services;

Whereas, justice systems in the United States should ensure that services are available for all victims of crime, including victims from under-served communities;

Whereas, observing victims' rights and treating victims with fairness, dignity, and respect serve the public interest by engaging victims in the justice system, inspiring respect for public authorities and promoting confidence in public safety; and

Whereas, individuals in the United States recognize that our homes, neighborhoods, and communities are made safer and stronger by identifying and meeting the needs of crime victims and ensuring justice for all.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Hawai`i Republican Party in convention at Lihue, Hawai`i, May 14, 2011, encourages the full implementation of resources and services available to victims of crime in Hawai`i.

Therefore, be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution be posted on the Hawai'i Republican Party website and distributed to Hawai'i elected officials and media for public dissemination.