

MAR 14 1995

STATE GOVERNMENT

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 17

BY HARRISON, BODDICKER, HALVORSON,  
HURLEY, and CORNELIUS

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of  
2 the State of Iowa to provide certain rights to victims of  
3 crime.

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HJR 17

1 Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of  
2 the State of Iowa is proposed:

3 Article I of the Constitution of the State of Iowa, is  
4 amended by adding the following new section:

5 CRIMINAL VICTIMS RIGHTS. Sec. 24A. Victims of crime,  
6 including surviving relatives of homicide victims, have the  
7 right to be treated with fairness and dignity throughout the  
8 criminal justice process. Subject to the same rules of  
9 evidence and procedure which apply to the person accused or  
10 convicted of committing the crime, a victim of a crime,  
11 including surviving relatives of a homicide victim, or the  
12 victim's representative has the right to be informed of, to be  
13 present at, and to be heard at all criminal proceedings of or  
14 at which the accused or convicted person has the right to be  
15 informed, to be present, and to be heard.

16 Sec. 2. The foregoing amendment to the Constitution of the  
17 State of Iowa is referred to the General Assembly, to be  
18 chosen at the next general election for members of the General  
19 Assembly and the Secretary of State is directed to cause the  
20 same to be published for three consecutive months previous to  
21 the date to that election as provided by law.

22 EXPLANATION

23 This bill proposes an amendment to the Constitution of the  
24 State of Iowa that accords certain rights to victims of  
25 crimes, or their survivors or legal representatives, in  
26 criminal proceedings relating to the crime of which they are a  
27 victim. The resolution, if adopted, would be referred to the  
28 next general assembly before being submitted to the electorate  
29 for ratification.

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