

FEB 2 2005  
COMMERCE, REGULATION & LABOR

HOUSE FILE 179  
BY PETERSEN, HUSER, WISE,  
and DANDEKAR

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act requiring employers to grant leaves of absence for crime  
2 victims to attend court proceedings and making penalties  
3 applicable.

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

- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23

HE 179

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 55.2A LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR CRIME  
2 VICTIMS.

3 A person who is a victim as defined in section 915.10  
4 shall, upon written application to the employer of that  
5 person, be granted a leave of absence from regular employment  
6 to attend court proceedings related to the public offense or  
7 delinquent act of which the person is a victim. The written  
8 application shall include verification from the applicable  
9 prosecutor as to the dates of the court proceedings. The  
10 leave of absence may be granted without pay and shall be  
11 granted without loss of net credited service and benefits  
12 earned. This section shall not be construed to require an  
13 employer to pay pension, health, or other benefits during the  
14 leave of absence to an employee taking a leave of absence  
15 under this section.

16 EXPLANATION

17 This bill provides that a victim of a public offense or  
18 delinquent act, as defined by Code section 915.10, shall, upon  
19 written application to the victim's employer, be granted a  
20 leave of absence from regular employment to attend court  
21 proceedings related to the crime. The written application  
22 shall include verification from the prosecutor as to the dates  
23 of court proceedings. The bill provides that the leave may be  
24 without pay but shall be granted without loss of service or  
25 benefits earned. A person violating this new provision is  
26 guilty of a simple misdemeanor.

27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35