

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-first Legislature
First Regular Session
2013

HOUSE MEMORIAL 2002

A MEMORIAL

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE UNITED STATES TO PROVIDE RIGHTS TO VICTIMS OF CRIME.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States of America:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, criminal defendants are afforded numerous federal rights and
4 procedural protections; and

5 Whereas, victims of crime are not afforded any federal constitutional
6 rights or protections; and

7 Whereas, the people of this state believe in the individual rights and
8 liberties of all persons and have amended the Constitution of Arizona to
9 provide crime victims with rights, and yet it is clear that without federal
10 constitutional rights, crime victims' rights are less meaningful and
11 enforceable.

12 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of
13 Arizona, prays:

14 1. That the Congress of the United States propose to the people an
15 amendment to the Constitution of the United States that provides rights to
16 crime victims and that embodies the following principles:

17 (a) The right to be informed of and not excluded from any public
18 proceedings relating to the crime.

19 (b) The right to be heard regarding any release from custody.

20 (c) The right to consideration for the safety and privacy of the
21 victim, the victim's interest in avoiding unreasonable delay and the victim's
22 interest in restitution.

23 (d) The right to be heard regarding any negotiated plea or sentence.

24 (e) The right to receive notice of release or escape.

25 2. That any amendment to the Constitution of the United States to
26 establish rights for crime victims grant standing to victims of crime to
27 assert all rights established by the Constitution.

28 3. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies
29 of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of
30 the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from
31 the State of Arizona.