

FILED
in the office of the Sec. of State
of the State of California

APR 15 1982

MARCH FOREG ELL, Secretary of State

By: *Phen D...*
Deputy

Executive Department
State of California

P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, notwithstanding a decline last year in the number of violent crimes committed in California, crime continues to be a serious problem facing the citizens of this State; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to our continued fight against crime for victims and witnesses to actively participate in the administration of justice; and

WHEREAS, too often victims and witnesses feel overlooked by the criminal justice system in its efforts to apprehend, prosecute and punish criminal offenders; and

WHEREAS, justice demands that we formally recognize the rights of victims, among which are the right to respect and simple courtesy from all officials in the criminal justice system, the right to restitution from offenders, the right to compensation for personal injuries, the right as witnesses to be protected from harassment or retribution, the right to be heard and considered in sentencing decisions and the right to be informed of the final disposition of the case; and

WHEREAS, the official observance of "Victims' Rights Week" provides an opportunity to recognize the major strides we have made in the fight against crime and our heightened respect for the rights and needs of crime victim and witnesses;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim April 19, through April 25, 1982, as "Victims' Rights Week" in the State of California.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 14th day of April, 1982.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor of California

ATTEST *March Foreg ELL*
Secretary of State

by *Phen D...*
Deputy Secretary of State

