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SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. Coming up is the Nebraska Crime Victims' Rights Week of April 23rd to 29th, which corresponds to the National Crime Victims' Rights Week. And this resolution simply talks about criminal violence, targets millions of Americans and thousands of Nebraskans every year. And whereas violent crime increased 70 percent in Nebraska from 1984 through 1993; and whereas from 1984 through 1991 violent crime per capita in Nebraska increased 50 percent, nationwide it only rose 40 percent; and whereas crime victims' play an indispensable role in bringing criminals to justice and thus preventing further violence; and whereas as a nation devoted to liberty and justice for all, America must plant the seeds of justice to protect and restore crime victims' rights; and whereas harvesting justice over the previous two decades had been accomplished by the millions of survivors of crime, their families and their advocates whose commitment and spirit has persevered while confronting increasing violence in our country; and the Nebraska Coalition for Victims' of Crime is joining forces with the victims' service programs, criminal justice officials, concerned citizens throughout Nebraska and America to observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 23rd to the 29th. We have in the past, of course, recognized the victims of violent crime particularly and have done great help and been of great assistance, and part of these programs have included volunteers in the local programs, and that has been a wonderful asset to the police departments and the county attorneys' offices all across the state. So the Legislature, in this resolution, expresses its gratitude to the many Nebraskans who reach out to lessen the distress of crime victims and they encourage all Nebraskans to become active in assisting and supporting victims of crime with volunteer efforts in their communities and their victim assistance centers located in their police and prosecutors' offices. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Pirsch. Senator Chambers, you're recognized to speak on the resolution.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Pirsch a question. Senator Pirsch, I ran up here to be with you on this...I meant, to discuss this