

MONONGALIA COUNTY COMMISSION

COURTHOUSE
MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA 26505

Robert "Bob" Bell, Commissioner
Auel Kennedy, Commissioner
John W. Pyles, Commissioner



Telephone: 304 291-7257

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, America's victims' rights discipline has had a powerful impact in educating our nation about the devastating effects of crime and victimization, and the need to provide support and services to individuals and communities hurt by crime; and

WHEREAS, victimization rates in the United States are the lowest recorded since the inception of the National Crime Victimization Survey in 1973; and

WHEREAS, there were still nearly 29 million people in America who were victimized by crime last year; and

WHEREAS, the year 2001 marks the 25th anniversary of the Victim Impact Statement, which helps our criminal and juvenile justice systems better understand the psychological, financial, and physical impact of crime on victims, and hold offenders accountable for their criminal and delinquent actions; and

WHEREAS, the voices of our nation's victims have had a powerful effect in changing laws, policies, and attitudes to promote victims' rights and services, and encouraging every person in America to take a stand and help crime victims; and

WHEREAS, important partnerships have been formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, allied professionals, victim services, and the private sector to ensure that crime victims are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve; and

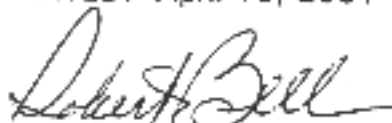
WHEREAS, our nation's commitment to crime victim assistance draws stronger with each passing year, with over 10,000 system-and community-based programs in place to provide help and hope to victims of crime;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monongalia County Commission proclaims the week of April 22 to 28, 2001, to be Monongalia County Crime Victims' Rights Week, and celebrates victims' voices as an important chorus for fairness and dignity; and

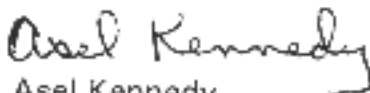
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that we continue to reach for the stars of justice and compassion for crime victims as individuals, as communities, and as a nation dedicated to justice for all; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a suitably prepared copy of this proclamation be presented to the Monongalia County Victim/Witness Assistance Program.

DATED: April 18, 2001



Robert L. Bell
President



Asel Kennedy
Commissioner



John W. Pyles
Commissioner