



# NEWS RELEASE

## ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**Speaker of the House Andy Tobin, R-Prescott (Dist. 1)**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Supporting the Rights of Crime Victims**

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX (April 17, 2014) – Legislation that gives nonprofit organizations additional resources to provide legal services to crime victims passed out of the Senate late Thursday, April 17, 2014, and will now go to Governor Jan Brewer.

House Bill 2625, sponsored by Speaker of the House Andy Tobin, establishes the Victims' Rights Enforcement Fund and prescribes that an additional \$2 assessment be collected by the courts for criminal offenses and certain civil penalties for the Fund.

"Too often victims of crime are overlooked in the criminal justice system," said Speaker Tobin. "The establishment of this fund will help victims of crime protect their constitutional rights."

2014 marks the 30th anniversary of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, which ran from April 6-12. The theme this year is "30 Years: Restoring the Balance of Justice."

"Arizona pays millions and millions of dollars to provide legal services to individuals accused of committing crimes," Speaker Tobin said. "By giving additional resources to the victims of crimes, we take an important step toward balancing justice in Arizona."

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