

1 AN ACT proposing to create a new section of the Constitution of Kentucky relating
2 to crime victims' rights.

3 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

4 ➔SECTION 1. IT IS PROPOSED THAT A NEW SECTION BE ADDED TO
5 THE CONSTITUTION OF KENTUCKY TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

6 *The General Assembly shall make provision, by law, to secure for crime victims*
7 *justice and due process and to ensure crime victims a meaningful role throughout the*
8 *criminal and juvenile justice systems, which shall be respected and protected by law in*
9 *a manner no less vigorous than the protections afforded to the accused in the criminal*
10 *and juvenile justice systems. Crime victims shall have the right to reasonable and*
11 *timely notice of and to be present at all proceedings, the right to be heard in any*
12 *proceeding, the right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay, the right to*
13 *reasonable protection from the accused and those acting on behalf of the accused, the*
14 *right to timely notice of release or escape of the accused, the right to due consideration*
15 *of the crime victim's safety, dignity, and privacy, and the right to be informed of these*
16 *enumerated rights, and shall have standing to enforce these rights. The victim, the*
17 *victim's attorney or other lawful representative, or the attorney for the Commonwealth*
18 *upon request of the victim may seek enforcement of the rights enumerated in this*
19 *section and any other right afforded to the victim by law in any trial or appellate court*
20 *with jurisdiction over the case. The court shall act promptly on such a request and*
21 *afford a remedy for the violation of any right.*

22 ➔Section 2. This amendment shall be submitted to the voters of the
23 Commonwealth for their ratification or rejection at the time and in the manner provided
24 for under Sections 256 and 257 of the Constitution and under KRS 118.415. The
25 question to be submitted to the voters shall read as follows: "Are you in favor of
26 providing constitutional rights to victims of crime, including the right to be treated fairly,
27 with dignity and respect, and the right to be informed and to have a voice in the judicial

1 process?"