R-1718-104

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR STATE QUESTION 794 (SQ 794), ALSO KNOWN AS MARSY'S LAW FOR OKLAHOMA, THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE OKLAHOMA CONSTITUTION PROPOSING EXPANSION OF CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS. REQUIRING CRIME VICTIMS TO BE INFORMED OF THEIR RIGHTS, AND REQUIRING COURTS TO ENFORCE THESE RIGHTS; AND URGING ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WITHIN THE CITY OF NORMAN TO CONSIDER THE SAFETY, AND WELFARE OF **NORMAN** RESIDENTS AND TO VOTE ON STATE QUESTION 794 ON NOVEMBER 6, 2018.

- § 1. WHEREAS, State Question 794, also known as Marsy's Law for Oklahoma, proposes a constitutional amendment that would both reinforce and extend the rights of all crime victims to certain treatment, information and restitution by the criminal justice system; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, in 2017 the Oklahoma Legislature approved Senate Joint Resolution 46, which authorized a statewide vote amending Section 34 of Article II of the Oklahoma Constitution to add crime victims' rights to the Oklahoma Constitution; and
- § 3. WHEREAS, the proposed amendment would make changes to crime victims' rights, including: expanding the court proceedings at which victims have the right to be heard; adding a right to reasonable protection; adding a right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay; adding a right to talk with the prosecutor; and allowing victims to refuse interview requests from the defendant without a subpoena; and
- § 4. WHEREAS, "victim" includes any person against whom the criminal offense or delinquent act is committed or who is directly and proximately harmed by the commission of the offense or act. The term "victim" does not include the accused or a person whom the court finds would not act in the best interests of a deceased, incompetent, or incapacitated victim; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, numerous law enforcement and community organizations have endorsed the proposed changes, including: the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police, the Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, the Oklahoma District Attorney's Council, the Oklahoma Fraternal Order of Police, the Oklahoma Sheriff's Association, the Oklahoma Women's Coalition, Threads of Compassion, among others; and



- § 6. WHEREAS, the City Council believes the protection of victims of crimes is important to Norman citizens; and
- § 7. WHEREAS, the City Council believes ensuring the protection of Norman citizens who are victims of crimes is one of the preeminent obligations of the City of Norman.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

§ 8. That the Council of the City of Norman, Oklahoma, hereby expresses its support for State Question 794, also known as Marsy's Law for Oklahoma, and urges all registered voters within the City of Norman to consider the health, safety, and welfare of Norman residents and to vote on State Question 794 on November 6, 2018.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of April, 2018.

ATTEST:	Mayor	
City Clerk		