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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Daughters of Penelope Applauds Congressman Byrne Joining the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus



WASHINGTON (March 9, 2015)—The Daughters of Penelope (DOP), a leading international women's organization, welcomed news that U.S. Rep. Bradley Byrne (R-AL) joined the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus, announced Grand President Anna-Helene Grossomanides.

"We applaud Congressman Byrne for joining the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus," said Grossomanides. "We look forward to working with him and his staff, especially because Penelope House Domestic Violence Center is located in his congressional district. We hope to encourage more members to join the caucus."

She added, "The Victims' Rights Caucus is a meaningful one to our organization because domestic violence issues fall under its scope. Therefore, given our organization's support of domestic violence victims, it is vital to grow the caucus."

The Victims' Rights Caucus (VRC) currently stands at 69 members.

Grand President Grossomanides also commended and credited the grassroots outreach of Daughters of Penelope members from Mobile, Alabama, that led to the congressman's joining the VRC.

For decades, the Daughters of Penelope has had a vested interest in the issue of domestic violence, supporting local shelters and the victims they house all across the country. In 1979, the DOP sponsored Penelope House, a nationally-recognized model shelter located in Mobile, Ala. It was the first of its kind in Alabama. In October 2009, the DOP opened its second nationally sponsored shelter, Penelope's Place, in Brockton, Mass.

The bipartisan Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus was formed in 2005 to be an advocate and voice in Congress for victims of all types of crime, including domestic violence. It is co-chaired by its founder, U.S. Rep. Ted Poe (R-TX) and U.S. Rep. Jim Costa (D-CA).



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The mission of the DOP, an affiliate organization of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), is to promote the ancient Greek ideals of Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence through community service and volunteerism.

- For more information about Penelope House, please visit www.penelopehouse.org.
- For more information about Penelope's Place, please visit <http://healthimperatives.org/penelope/home>

Please visit www.daughtersofpenelope.org for more information about the DOP or any of its programs or projects.

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