

2009 National PTA Resolutions

Education on the Dangers of Tobacco Use and Secondhand Smoke	
Whereas 1	Whereas, Tobacco use, including cigarette smoking, cigar smoking, and Smokeless tobacco use, remains the leading preventable cause of death in the United States; and
Whereas 2	Whereas, Each year approximately 400,000 Americans die from causes attributed to cigarette smoking and tobacco use; and
Whereas 3	Whereas, Each day, more than 3,500 people under the age of 18 try their first cigarette and another 1,100 become regular, daily smokers. About one third of these young people will die from a smoking-related disease in the future; and
Whereas 4	Whereas, Secondhand smoke is a mixture of the smoke given off by the burning end of a cigarette, pipe or cigar and the smoke exhaled from the lungs of smokers. Secondhand smoke contains more than 250 chemicals known to be toxic or cancer causing, including formaldehyde, benzene, vinyl chloride, arsenic, ammonia, and hydrogen cyanide; and
Whereas5	Whereas, There is no risk-free level of secondhand smoke exposure. Short exposures to secondhand smoke can cause blood platelets to become stickier, damage the lining of blood vessels, decrease coronary flow velocity reserves, and reduce heart rate variability, potentially increasing the risk of heart attack; and
Whereas 6	Whereas, Of children 3 to 11 years of age, almost 60 percent, or 22 million, are exposed to secondhand smoke; therefore be it
Resolved 1	Resolved, That the National PTA and its constituent organizations participate with other relevant organizations in public service campaigns to educate the public about the dangers of all tobacco products and secondhand smoke and their effects on children and youth; and be it further
Resolved 2	Resolved, That the National PTA and its constituent organizations increase efforts to educate parents and community members about the dangers of all tobacco products and secondhand smoke and its effect on children and youth; and be it further
Resolved 3	Resolved, That the National PTA and its constituent organizations to support and cooperate in the education of children and youth regarding the danger of all tobacco products and secondhand smoke.
Resolved 4	Resolved, That the National PTA and its constituent organizations participate with other relevant organizations in advocating for policies and legislation that reduce tobacco use, initiation, and secondhand smoke exposure among children and youth.

Proviso:	<p>If adopted, the following resolutions will be rescinded</p> <p>Cigarette Additives (1987) Clove Cigarettes (1986) Education on the Hazards of Smoking (1986)</p> <p>Education About the Dangers of Tobacco Products (1997) Nonsmokers Have Rights Too (1977) Sale of Tobacco Products to Minors (1989) Secondhand Tobacco Smoke (1993) Warning Labels on Smokeless Tobacco Products (1985)</p> <p>If adopted the following position statements will be rescinded by the board of directors</p> <p>Dangers of Tobacco Products (1985) Tobacco and Health (1984) Tobacco Free School Environments (1989)</p>
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Dangers of Alcoholic Energy Drinks

Whereas 1	Whereas, Non-alcoholic energy drinks are a multi-billion dollar industry. The packaging of alcoholic energy drinks mimics non-alcoholic energy drinks, which particularly appeal to youth; and
Whereas 2	Whereas, Alcoholic drinks with caffeine appeal to young people who consume caffeinated non-alcoholic energy drinks. Thirty-one percent of 12 to 17 year-olds report regular consumption of non-alcoholic energy drinks; and
Whereas 3	Whereas, Alcoholic energy drinks are prepackaged beverages containing alcohol, which is a depressant, and stimulants such as caffeine and guarana; and
Whereas 4	Whereas, Adding stimulants to alcohol reduces a drinker's perception of intoxication and promotes the delusion of drinking and functioning without impairment; and
Whereas 5	Whereas, In an agreement with a coalition of State Attorneys General, Anheuser Busch and Miller/Coors have discontinued distribution of alcoholic energy drinks. However, other companies continue to produce these beverages; therefore be it
Resolved 1	Resolved, That National PTA and its constituent organizations educate parents, students, administrators, teachers and community members about the dangers of consuming alcoholic energy drinks; and be it further
Resolved 2	Resolved, That National PTA and its constituent organizations seek legislation requiring that alcoholic energy drink manufacturers provide prominent alcohol content percentage on the label, as well as health and safety warnings indicating the dangers of combining alcohol with caffeinated beverages.

Child Trafficking

Whereas 1	Whereas, Children are potential victims of both commercial and sexual abuse by traffickers due to lack of education, gender disparity, inequality, violence, corruption, poverty, lack of employment opportunities, demand for cheap labor and services and an expanding globalized sex industry; and
Whereas 2	Whereas, UNICEF estimates that globally, 1.2 million children are trafficked each year within countries, as well as across borders including the United States; and
Whereas 3	Whereas, At least 200,000 or more children may be victims of Domestic trafficking within the United States, leaving no state is immune from trafficking; and
Whereas 4	Whereas, The majority of child trafficking cases go unreported due to the highly clandestine nature of the crime; policies and practices encouraging civil participation and cooperation in the prosecution of traffickers must be developed and enforced; and
Whereas 5	Whereas, It is also important that police, prosecutors and courts punish traffickers within a system that is quick and respects and safeguards the rights of the victims to privacy, dignity, and safety; and
Whereas 6	Whereas, The Federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act and existing state anti-trafficking statutes need improvement to fully protect and support the child victims of trafficking and approximately 25% of states have no anti-trafficking laws at all; and therefore be it

Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Management in Schools

Whereas 1	Whereas, Food allergy and anaphylactic allergies among children are an increasing school health issue, and approximately 2.2 million school-age children are at risk in the United States and reactions account for 30,000 emergency room visits and 150-200 deaths, many in schools, each year in the United States; and
Whereas 2	Whereas, The prevalence of food allergies among children in the United States has increased substantially with the incidence of peanut allergies doubling over a recent five year period; and
Whereas 3	Whereas, Just eight foods account for 85-90 percent of all food allergic reactions, namely milk, egg, wheat, peanut, soy, tree nuts, fish, and shellfish; and
Whereas 4	Whereas, Accidental ingestion or exposure by children may occur most often at schools and daycares where children often consume two meals and a snack during the day, and in some cases a reaction may be the first sign of an allergy; and
Whereas 5	Whereas, The importance of managing food-allergic students has been recognized by the National Association of School Nurses, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the National School Boards Association, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology; and
Whereas 6	Whereas, Strict avoidance is the only way to prevent a reaction because there is no cure for food allergies; therefore be it

Resolved 1	Resolved, That National PTA and its constituent organizations support the adoption and enforcement of laws that will deter the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of children for the purpose of exploitation; and be it further
Resolved 2	Resolved, That National PTA and its constituent organizations advocate for the protection of rights of victims and support efforts to provide measures for the physical, psychological, and social recovery of victims of child trafficking; and be it further
Resolved 3	Resolved, That National PTA and its constituent organizations encourage and call for members, policy makers in government, inter-governmental bodies and non-governmental, school and community organizations to raise awareness and to address those conditions and situations that contribute to child trafficking.

Proposed Resolutions to be Rescinded

Over the past several conventions, delegates have voted to rescind nearly 200 resolutions. As a continuation of this process, the Resolutions Committee has recommended and the National PTA board of directors approved to forward more than 500 resolutions for rescinding en bloc during the 113th annual National PTA convention. The resolutions will be rescinded because they are no longer relevant, they have been encompassed in another resolution or position statement or because their intent has been accomplished.

To view and download the list of resolutions to be rescinded, please visit the National PTA website at www.pta.org/rescind. A copy of the proposed rescinded resolutions may be requested by contacting National PTA Information Center at info@pta.org or (800) 307-4782.