

RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTATION: HOW HAVE WE MADE A DIFFERENCE?

How have we made a difference? Many current policies and statutes that have made a difference for children, youths and families began as a Resolution. Establishing the Juvenile Justice System, advocating for youths aged 18 and under (instead of 17 and under) to be considered juveniles, ensuring complete vision examinations for children before starting school, limitations on the use of cell phones while driving, a Parents' Guide to the Illinois Graduated Driver's License System, and food allergy and anaphylaxis awareness, are only a few.

In order for Resolutions to be effective and for great things to happen for our children, each local unit/council is asked to incorporate the "implementation" of current Resolutions into their plan of work. We need the enthusiasm and energy of each and every one of you to be successful! So let's all continue our efforts as *Every Child Deserves a Champion!*

UPDATES ON CURRENT RESOLUTIONS

Delegates attending the 2017 Illinois PTA Convention passed the following three Resolutions:

- **2017 Resolution on Climate Change** in connection with the detrimental impact of certain human activities leading to adverse climate change.
- **2017 Resolution on Hydraulic Fracturing/Oil and Gas Industry Drilling Hazards** in connection with the health and environmental concerns related to these activities.
- **2017 Resolution on Financial Literacy** in relation to the importance of financial literacy and its instruction.

In connection with the "Resolved" in each of these Resolutions to provide information to our membership, we provided information in the Local Unit Packet entitled, Resolutions: Contents for Immediate Use. The information provided included a short article on each issue for local units to copy and paste into their newsletters to provide information on each issue to their membership. This information is also now available on our website.

Additionally, in connection with the Resolution on Climate Change, and the Resolution on Hydraulic Fracturing/Oil and Gas Industry Drilling Hazards, where the "Resolveds" include the support of related legislation, we hand delivered our position statements on these issues to the office of every legislator in Springfield, and the governor's office. We will continue to advocate for related legislation on these environmental concerns, and, where we are able to do so, work with other like-minded organizations to raise awareness and pass related legislation.

2017 Resolutions and National PTA Status. In connection with each 2017 Resolution's final "Resolved", we reviewed the 2017 Resolutions with National PTA's Resolution Committee. As National PTA has an existing position on climate change, they determined no resolution was necessary on that issue. In connection with the Resolution on Financial Literacy, and the Resolution on Hydraulic Fracturing/Oil and Gas Industry Drilling Hazards, we timely submitted these as prospective National PTA resolutions. While they were not accepted by National PTA for this year's convention, we are actively working with National PTA's Resolutions Committee to bring these forward for consideration and approval for next year's National PTA convention.

2016 Resolution on Young Adults Involved in the Justice System: Report on Young Adults in the Justice System - Delegates at the 2016 Illinois PTA Convention passed a resolution creating a committee to study whether those young adults aged 18 to 21 involved in the justice system should be treated

differently from older adults based on the latest scientific research on brain development. At the 2017 Illinois PTA Convention, that study committee presented its [Report to 2017 Illinois PTA Convention on Young Adults Involved in the Justice System](#). Our report was also distributed to the office of every legislator as well as the Governor during our Illinois PTA Advocacy Day in October. The report presents the three areas of focus that the committee investigated—brain development, age divisions, and what other jurisdictions are doing, both in the United States and overseas.

2014 Resolution on Special Education Issues Awareness: We have provided local units with additional information in the Local Unit Packet entitled, Resolutions: Contents for Immediate Use, under the Legislative Advocacy section, which includes an article to place in newsletters on this issue, as well as means to advocate for your child. We continue to monitor the Illinois General Assembly for related legislation. We have published several articles related to students with special needs on the One Voice Illinois blog.

UPDATES ON PAST RESOLUTIONS / CONTINUING POSITIONS

Resolution on Prevention of Asphyxiation Games (Choking Game) (2013): Our partnership with the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics to increase awareness and help to prevent further tragedies was successful. We have jointly written an article directed to Illinois pediatricians, [The Choking Game: Updates and Recommendations to Clinical Practitioners](#) by Kshama Shah, MD, MPH; Molly Diaz, MD, MPH; Lisa Garbaty; and Joseph Hageman, MD, that was published in the *Illinois Pediatrician*. Related to this, we jointly created an information sheet for those pediatricians to distribute to parents/caregivers, [The Choking Game: What Parents and Caregivers Need to Know](#). We continue to provide local units with updated information through the posted information on this Resolution found at <https://illinoispta.org/where-to-start/>.

Resolution on Children with Food Allergy (2008): In relation to this Continuing Position, we continue to monitor appropriate legislation, including SB2889 which expands the forms of epinephrine that may be used by school personnel in the event of an anaphylactic reaction. We also continue to provide you with relevant information through our articles and blog posts, as well links to [National PTA's Anaphylaxis: Be Aware, Prepared and Ready to Respond video series](#).

Resolutions in connection with Juvenile Justice (2006 and prior): We have had a number of recent successes in this area, as noted in the companion Legislation Report provided. In addition, we continue to support related legislation, including House Bill 4473 which would require that a juvenile be brought before a judicial officer within 24 hours to determine further custody, and that an initial detention hearing is to be no later than the morning after their arrival in placement, including weekends and holidays.

Resolution on Bullying Prevention (2002): In connection with this continuing position, we have continued to support related policies and legislation, including HB2950 regarding Anti-Bullying Resources and policy, which would require that the school policy concerning bullying be provided periodically throughout the year to students and faculty, and would require the school to have known personnel available for assistance in connection with bullying. HB2950 was signed by the Governor in August 2017 and became Public Act 100-0137.