



# RESOLUTIONS

## NEW RESOLUTIONS YOUTH PROJECT

This is a new project. Information on successes or failures and suggestions would be appreciated by the Resolutions Committee. If you have any questions, please contact Chairman Judi Stankowich.

Participation in this project can be reported under the Education Community Service Program, the Public Issues Community Service Program, or Legislation/Public Policy.

Any resolutions developed because of participation in this project could be adopted by the sponsoring club and presented for adoption by the State organization. Please check with the State President or State Resolutions Chairman for process of submission and deadline dates. If adopted by the State, it should be sent to the GFWC Resolutions Committee Chairman by November 1 each year.

**GOAL:** To provide high school students with the skills needed to engage in the legislation process.

**POWER POINT:** A Power Point Presentation on the GFWC Resolutions Youth Project is available for you to download at GFWC.org. Go to Resources, scroll to "R", click on "R", go to Resolutions Youth Project, and download.

### LEGISLATION INFORMATION:

- To view a specific state bill and its status, search '(name of state) legislature' and you will find a link to Bills. Follow the link; in the search line state the bill number, name, or subject. Or you will find a telephone number that can be called to obtain the same information.
- To view the status of federal legislation, call 202-225-1772 or 202-224-3121 or go online at [www.congress.gov](http://www.congress.gov) or [www.statusclerk.house.gov](http://www.statusclerk.house.gov). Another source of information and tracking of a bill's status is [www.govtrack.us](http://www.govtrack.us).

### HOW TO ESTABLISH A SCHOOL/SCOUT TROOP RESOLUTION PROJECT (SAMPLES INCLUDED)

#### PROPOSAL

1. Provide a short fact sheet about GFWC, your state organization, and your club. Include your contact information.
2. Use the internet to find facts of current bills on issues relating to violence in schools, bullying, internet safety, or other subjects that may be of interest. Prepare a summary of the information.
3. Write a short explanation of what you want to accomplish and how it will be implemented in the classroom/troop meetings. Determine the amount of time that the school/troop can allow for the project and in what increments.
4. Include one or two GFWC Resolutions that pertain to the subjects cited as an example.



### 2018-2020 RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

#### Judi Stankowich, Chairman

8921 Smithfield Drive  
Calabash, NC 28467  
P: 910-287-6156  
E: [judistankowich@atmc.net](mailto:judistankowich@atmc.net)

#### Arlene Creeden

45 Cottonwood Drive  
Hudson, NH 03051  
P: 603-321-7028  
E: [acreedan@gmail.com](mailto:acreedan@gmail.com)

#### Patrice Booze

10359 Fields Ertel Road  
Loveland, OH 45140  
P: 513-683-9471  
E: [boozesails@aol.com](mailto:boozesails@aol.com)

#### Chris Sienkielewski

186 Oak Manor Parkway  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
P: 908-561-8057 C: 732-662-8286  
E: [cas1231@comcast.net](mailto:cas1231@comcast.net)

#### Rosalie Dialessi

3 Liberty Lane  
Southwick, MA 01077  
P: 413-998-3955  
E: [roseann32@comcast.net](mailto:roseann32@comcast.net)

#### Ida Dorvee, Legislation/Public Policy Chairman

1605 Northcliff Trace  
Roswell, GA 30076  
P: 770-998-0271  
E: [idadorvee@charter.net](mailto:idadorvee@charter.net)

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5. List your goals.

**RESEARCH**

1. Locate the nearest school, principal's name, and telephone number. Call to arrange a meeting to present your proposal. Suggest having a teacher attend the meeting.
2. Contact the troop leader for a local boy/girl scout leader and arrange to present your proposal.
3. Determine if school or scout meeting site has WIFI. If available, bring your laptop. If not, alter presentation to accommodate.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

1. Prepare a flyer for the students/scouts introducing the project and asking them to be prepared to suggest topics. This should be distributed before the first discussion.
2. Narrow subject focus to maximum of three choices. Divide the group into the number of choices. Explain how to conduct internet searches and obtain wording and status for current bills. Have students/scouts use the current bills to prepare arguments in favor of their bill. Conduct a short debate and allow students/scouts to vote on the bill they will use.
3. Once selected, choose the material for each of and write the three "WHEREAS" statements, which are the reasons the bill is needed. This information can usually be found in the Statement at the end of the bill. Write the first and second "RESOLVED." Use the name of the school and class in the text. The second RESOLVED should contain the list of legislators who will receive the resolution. ("How to Write A Resolution" included).
4. Compose the letter using your home or the club's address that will be sent with the Resolution to the people named in the last "RESOLVED." Be sure to sign GFWC and your club name in red to build recognition of GFWC and your club with legislators. Have copies printed and mailed.

**FOLLOW-UP**

1. When responses are received make an appointment to present the information to the class.
2. Send notes to the class advising of any action taken about the Resolution.
3. Print certificates of participation for presentation to the class/scouts.

**HOW TO WRITE A RESOLUTION (SAMPLE RESOLUTION INCLUDED)**

A Resolution is really a motion and as such is one continuous statement with a period only at the end of the last RESOLVED. It should always have a title, usually the name of the bill if it pertains to a piece of legislation or the subject, if it does not.

The title is followed by a maximum of three "WHEREAS" statements, which contain the reasons why the legislation or subject is needed. The text of the bill will usually have a statement at the end providing the information needed. Each WHEREAS is a separate paragraph ending with a semicolon and, except the final one, the word "and." The last "WHEREAS" ends with a semicolon and the word "therefore."

WHEREAS, (first statement of reason legislation is needed); and  
 WHEREAS, (second statement of reason legislation is needed); and  
 WHEREAS, (third statement of reason legislation is needed); therefore

The first "RESOLVED" statement gives the action desired and ends with a semicolon and the word "and." The second "RESOLVED" states who will receive a copy of the Resolution and ends with a period.

RESOLVED, That (name of club), a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs with (number of members) concerned women strongly urges the adoption of (bill number and name, or the cause); and  
 RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be forwarded to (names of those receiving resolution).

# RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions can be sent to the following people:

- State bill/subject - Governor; Lt. Governor; President of Senate; Speaker of the House; Senate Majority and Minority Leaders; House Majority and Minority Leaders; Chairman of the Committee to which the bill has been referred; Members of that committee if bill is coming up for a vote; the legislators from your area or district; the legislators who sponsored the bill; the head of any agency involved with the subject matter of the bill; and the GFWC Resolutions Chairman.
- Federal bill/subject - President; President of Senate (this is the Vice President of the US); Speaker of the House; Senate Majority and Minority Leaders; House Majority and Minority Leaders; Chairman of the Committee to which the bill has been referred; Members of that committee if bill is coming up for a vote; the legislators from your area or district; the legislators who sponsored the bill; the head of any agency involved with the subject matter of the bill; and the GFWC Resolutions Chairman.