

**New York State**

**PTA<sup>®</sup>**

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**Proposed  
Resolutions  
2014**

**Raise Our VOICE to  
Reclaim Opportunity!**

**To: All Unit/Council Presidents**  
**Re: Resolutions for Convention 2014**

Greetings! As your unit embarks on an exciting new PTA year, one of its first fall projects should be to review the proposed resolutions to be voted on at the upcoming 2014 NYS PTA Convention. The complete text of these resolutions will be found in this mailing. Remember that all PTA members have the right to take part in their local PTA's discussion and vote on resolutions, even if they will not be attending Convention.

Resolutions articulate official NYS PTA positions that were adopted by vote of the delegates at past Annual Conventions. You can find these adopted positions in two official NYS PTA documents: *Where We Stand*, which contains the complete text of the action clauses of each existing resolution; and *Basic Policy*, which provides a broader overview of general NYS PTA positions. PTA units and councils draw on these positions to shape their support of proposed legislation, policies or regulations and their advocacy in other areas affecting the welfare of children and youth.

There are three new resolutions, with the third being the one from last year that was returned back to committee. There are also 16 existing resolutions that are reviewed on a seven year cycle. The previously existing resolutions have been reviewed by the NYS PTA Resolutions Committee, amended if necessary, and classified into the categories of retentions, updates or rescissions. *Retentions* are adopted resolutions that are up for renewal without any revision; delegates may therefore reaffirm or reject them in their current form, but may not amend them. *Updates* are adopted resolutions which are being revised to maintain their accuracy or relevance. Delegates will vote to reaffirm or reject each update as well, but may also amend *the revised wording* of the update. Finally, *rescissions* are resolutions that can be retired because their resolves have been enacted. The Resolutions Committee has not put forth any rescissions this year.

To facilitate your resolutions debate, a brief statement following the text of each resolution explains the action (retention, update, rescission) proposed by the Resolutions Committee. Be sure to allow sufficient time at a general meeting for members to discuss each resolution before they vote on it. I recommend using the enclosed Resolutions Checklist to keep a record of your members' votes; this will help your Convention delegates when they represent your members and vote on their behalf. It's best for a PTA to give a vote of confidence to its delegates, in case some unforeseen issue arises during convention debate. This vote of confidence will allow the delegates to continue to represent their PTA, while making appropriate decisions in light of new information. Even if, for some reason, your unit cannot send a delegate to Convention, the membership should still review and vote on these resolutions. All members need to be familiar with resolutions because they are the foundation of all PTA advocacy.

Resolutions debate is one of the high points of Annual Convention. When you come together with other delegates to voice your views and act on your principles, you will feel the power of volunteers to make a difference for children and schools. On behalf of the Resolutions Committee, I invite you to Saratoga to join the action at Convention 2014.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.



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## RETENTIONS

### **RETENTION #1**

#### Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) Parent Member – 2007 (U-'00)

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge that a mandated “parent member” to the CPSE Committee as established by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act 2004 be eligible to serve for five years past the designated time that their child is declassified by the committee or ages out of CPSE level services.

#### **Statement:**

A recent change in NYS regulation has weakened the status of the parent member as a mandated member of the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE). Specifically, the regulation states in part, “... the additional parent member of the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) would only be a required member of the CPSE meeting if requested by the parent, or a member of the CPSE in writing at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.” NYS PTA recognizes the value of a mandated parent member, whose function it is to see that the child under discussion receives appropriate services. This alarming trend to reduce such power only makes it imperative for NYS PTA to take a proactive position.

### **RETENTION #2**

#### 504 Committees – 2007 (R-'00)

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. support a mandate in New York State regulations, regarding students covered under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, require that the parent of a child/youth who is referred to a 504 Committee be a member of that committee along with mandated school personnel to meet, assist with, and formulate decisions regarding accommodations and service for the child/youth.

#### **Statement:**

Part 200.3 of NYS Commissioner Regulations specifies members of the Committee on Special Education (CSE), states in part, “... the membership of each committee shall include but not be limited to the parents or persons in parental relationship to the student...” Recognizing the importance of having the parent of the child under discussion at CSE is equally important at 504 meetings.

### **RETENTION #3**

#### Cellular Phone Towers – 2007 (R-'00)

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. support legislation that would encourage local communities, including parents and school officials to regulate the placement of cell towers and cell tower

antennas particularly in schools and areas where children congregate, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA supports continued research into the long term effects of radio frequency and microwave frequencies on humans especially as they apply to children, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA seek to educate parents and school officials as to the current debate over the placement of cell towers and antennas.

**Statement:**

The demand for reliable cellular phone service has pushed communications companies to increase placement of towers to meet the demands of its customers. As a result, the number of cellular phone towers is increasing in all areas of local communities. Although there is a lack of consistent evidence regarding the health and environmental impact of the towers, many local community groups (including parents) are concerned about the potential long-term effects of emissions, as the effects, especially on children, are unknown. Current federal and state law puts the jurisdiction of placement of new cellular phone towers on the local municipalities. Federal regulations also prohibit communities from discriminating against cellular phone tower placement.

**RETENTION #4**

Supplemental Lottery Aid to Education – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, R-'86)

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge and support enforcement of existing legislation which would clearly provide 45% of the lottery proceeds as supplemental funds for education in addition to the allocated amount from the state's general revenues.

**Statement:**

NYS PTA continues to support applying proceeds from the lottery towards supplementing education funds. The lottery apportionments available to support elementary, middle, and secondary education programs already are included in the estimated totals.

**RETENTION #5**

Pupils with Support Service Needs – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, U-'86)

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. encourage Boards of Education to identify at-risk children and youth and provide needed services as already required by Commissioner's Regulations, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA strongly support collaborative efforts with non-school agencies to provide services.

**Statement:**

NYS PTA encourages boards of education to identify at-risk children and youth and provide required services. NYS PTA also supports collaborative efforts with non-school agencies in this regard.

**RETENTION #6**

Children and Youth in Poverty – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, R-'86)

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. cooperate with agencies and organizations which advocate for children and youth in poverty, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA support local, state, and federal legislation to alleviate isolation of the socioeconomic disadvantaged through specific programs such as more available day care, flexible work hours for quality parenting, and other beneficial actions.

**Statement:**

NYS PTA continues to encourage collaboration between community based organizations (CBOs), schools, and families to maximize the support provided to socioeconomically disadvantaged families.

**RETENTION #7**

Discharging of Fire Arms Within School Areas – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, R-'86)

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. seek and support legislation to amend section 265.35 of the NYS Penal Code to prohibit the discharge of firearms by any person other than exceptions listed in section 265.35 (of the NYS Penal Code) within one-half mile of any school property; urge local communities to enact similar legislation, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA urge local cities, towns and villages to enact their own zoning ordinances which will not allow the discharge.

**Statement:**

New York State Environmental Law states it is illegal to discharge a firearm within 500 feet of school property or playground. NYS PTA supports expanding the Gun Free Zone within 500 feet of the school property or playground.

**RETENTION #8**

Protecting Children and Youth from the Influence Of Tobacco Use in Movies – 2007

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. endorse and support the four actions within the Smoke Free Movies Initiative, to: 1.) Rate

new movies showing tobacco use “R” except if they reflect clear dangers or to portray a historical figure; 2.) Certify no payoffs or placements from the tobacco industry; 3.) Provide strong anti-smoking ads in any film with smoking; 4.) Stop identifying tobacco brands

**Statement:**

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), “in 2012, the Surgeon General concluded that there is a causal relationship between depictions of smoking in the movies and smoking initiation among young people. Almost one-half (45%) of top-grossing films in the United States between 2002 and 2012 were rated PG-13, making them easily accessible to youth. Recent content analysis of tobacco imagery in movies showed a decline in the appearance of tobacco incidents in PG-13 movies from 2005 to 2010. However, in 2011, the number of incidents increased and this increase continued in 2012.”

## UPDATES

### UPDATE #1

#### Drug Testing In School Districts – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, R-'86)

- Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. oppose urinalysis testing for drugs for elementary and secondary students in schools, and be it further
- Resolved** that the New York State PTA encourage school districts to develop **alternative** methods for **addressing** suspected substance use *(remove: abuse, and dependency among)* **by** students, using school personnel who are trained in substance abuse detection, and be it further
- Resolved** that the New York State PTA encourage units and councils to work with school districts to establish *(remove: programs)* **partnerships** with **licensed substance abuse treatment and prevention agencies** and seek funding for *(remove: dependency)* prevention, intervention, and “after-care” programs.

#### **Statement:**

This resolution originally addressed the unreliability of urinalysis and random drug testing of students. It has been updated to reflect current terminology, oppose all urinalysis testing of Elementary and Secondary students. It also encourages partnerships with outside resources and agencies.

### UPDATE #2

#### Indoor Air Quality Guidelines for Schools – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93)

- Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. supports *(remove: the passage of)* legislation **and regulations that will reduce** *(remove: requiring that specific standards be set for)* indoor air pollution and promote the highest, safest levels for indoor air quality levels in schools.

#### **Statement:**

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, studies of human exposure to air pollutants by EPA indicate that indoor levels of pollutants may be 2 to 5 times – and occasionally more than 100 times – higher than outdoor pollutant levels. Indoor air pollutants have been ranked among the top five environmental risks to public health. The problems they cause can be subtle and do not always produce easily recognized or immediate impacts on health. This commonsense resolution allows NYSPTA the flexibility to support various indoor air quality regulatory and legislative initiatives to protect students, school staff, and the entire school community.

KEY: WORDS IN **BOLD AND UNDERLINED** = ADDITIONS  
WORDS IN *ITALICS AND UNDERLINED* = ADDITIONS

### UPDATE #3

#### Protection of Groundwater Supplies – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, R-'86)

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. support *(remove: the concept of a safe waste water recharge system so that fresh water taken from wells for conveying sewage wastes can be returned through the natural filtering process to underground aquifers)* **protecting water recharge systems to maintain the natural filtering process to refresh underground aquifers,** and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA encourages and supports the effective management of groundwater supplies through research programs to develop better techniques for protecting and conserving the resource and monitoring groundwater supply and quality, *(remove: recharging aquifers and desalination of salt water)* and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA encourages education of children and youth regarding the need for conservation and water management.

#### **Statement:**

Groundwater protections must be a priority statewide, but the issue is most critical on Long Island where the aquifer is shallow, transport of contaminants between ground and surface waters is most profound, and most of – if not the entire – island relies on groundwater for drinking water supplies. Further, New Yorkers are largely ignorant to where the water that flows out of our taps comes from, how it got there, under what conditions it was treated or will be disposed of, and what we can do to ensure that this precious – and finite – resource can be protected and conserved. Building this type of education into our curriculums will help build understanding and the desire to protect our precious and finite water resources into future generations.

### UPDATE #4

#### Soil Contamination on School Grounds – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, R-'86)

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. support such efforts as to determine what levels of soil contamination by toxic substances are acceptable on school grounds, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA support legislation to designate levels of safety for all ground and soil contaminates on school grounds, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York state PTA support legislation to designate levels of acceptable exposure to children on school playgrounds and athletic fields, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA encourage existing agencies, such as the NYS Dept. of Health, Dept. of Environmental Conservation, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to determine immediate health risks and limits of

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safe contact for children and youth on all existing sites by encouraging the testing of soil for all toxic ground and soil contaminants, and be it further

**Resolved** that if soil testing demonstrates contaminant levels exceeding safe or acceptable levels for human health or the environment, the affected areas should be immediately closed for use by the school community and fully remediated. Every effort should be made to ensure that the party (ies) responsible for contamination are held liable but cleanups should not be delayed while the party (ies) are identified. *(remove: that once levels of soil contamination on school grounds are determined to be above acceptable levels, that the established agencies require the responsible party(ies) to alleviate the affected areas immediately)*

**Statement:**

Both New York State and the federal government should require soil testing on school grounds to protect a school community's health, safety and environment. If the results of such studies indicate that soils contain contaminants above human or environmental health and safety standards, the impacted areas should be closed and remediated as every effort is made to find and hold the responsible party(ies) liable.

**UPDATE #5**

Herbal Cigarettes – 2007 (U-'00)

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. encourage local units and councils to educate parents and children and youth about the potential dangers of herbal cigarettes, **including the Synthetic Cannabinoid Spice**, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA urge the State Education Department to update school health curricula to include information on the dangers of smoking herbal cigarettes.

**Statement:**

Article 13-F Regulation of Tobacco Products and Herbal Cigarettes; Distribution to Minors, Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act (ATUPA) law was enacted to help stop the sale of tobacco products and herbal cigarettes to anyone under 18 years of age. These include: cigarettes, cigars, bidis, chewing tobacco, powdered tobacco, any other tobacco products, pipes and rolling papers. Also, in the past few years, there have been herbal mixtures, such as the Synthetic Cannabinoid Spice, which are smoked and produces similar effects to cannabis, but marked as safe. These are available online or in smoke shops. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, Spice users are often taken to Poison Control Centers due to disturbing health effects such as, "rapid heart rate, vomiting, agitation, confusion and hallucinations. Spice can also raise blood pressure and cause reduced blood supply to the heart, and in a few cases, it has been associated with heart attacks. Regular users may experience withdrawal and addiction symptoms."

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## UPDATE #6

### Reasonable Access to Food During School – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93)

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the State Education Department to revise Commissioner's Regulation 7 CRF, part 210 to give children and youth the same protection afforded to adults in the workforce and require school districts to provide all children and youth with access to lunch (*remove: "three hours and no later than five hours from the time a student becomes the responsibility of a school district (e.g. at the beginning of a bus run.)"*) **no earlier than two and one half hours and no later than four hours after the start of the school day for each full day pupil attending pre-kindergarten through grade twelve.**

#### **Statement:**

Due to the fact that students arrive to school by various means and at various times, using the start of the school day is a more consistent indicator when calculating lunch schedules. Missing meals and experiencing hunger impairs children's development and achievement. Students are more likely to have lower math scores, repeat a grade, come to school late, or miss school entirely. The current law as written in Section 813 of the education law, requires that lunch be served at a "reasonable" time, but does not define what is reasonable and with overcrowding issues, many schools schedule lunch at an unreasonably early or late time. The change in wording will also be consistent with pending legislation titled S239-2013 and A 341-2013.

## UPDATE #7

### Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, U-'86)

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. and its local units focus on the prevention of unintended adolescent pregnancy, recognizing the need for involving parents **or persons in parental relationship** to the student and uniting their efforts with school and community resources, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA support implementation of **health** / family life curricula in every school, emphasizing the importance of parent **or persons in parental relationship to the student** participation, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA highlight and publish information about **evidence-based health and** family life programs that achieve good results, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA support funding for school based health clinics which will provide comprehensive health care and counseling to adolescents and whatever pregnancy prevention services deemed appropriate by the local community.

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**Statement:**

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “The National Health Education Standards (NHES) were developed to establish, promote and support health-enhancing behaviors for students in all grade levels—from prekindergarten through grade 12. The NHES provide a framework for teachers, administrators, and policy makers in designing or selecting curricula, allocating instructional resources, and assessing student achievement and progress. Importantly, the standards provide students, families and communities with concrete expectations for health education.” School Based Health Centers (SBHC) provide school districts opportunities to meet the health and mental health care needs of underserved students and families with primary and preventive health care at no out of pocket cost.

**UPDATE #8**

**Reinstate and Restructure the Regents Component Retesting System – 2007**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teacher, Inc. urge the New York State Education Department to **reinstate and** restructure component retesting to: 1.) include all curriculum areas in which regents exams are offered, and; 2.) be aligned with the Regents exams content and format, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York state Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the New York State Education Department to simplify the component retesting program for easier access by: 1.) scheduling component retests during all Regents exam periods, but not to conflict with other scheduled Regents exams; 2.) allowing students with a score of at least 55, but not greater than 64, on a Regents exam to take a component retest, and 3.) allowing students to sit for component retests regardless of grade level after receiving appropriate review in the component area.

**Statement:**

New York State Education Department (NYSED) began component retesting in the areas of English and mathematics and planned to expand this program into the other academic subjects required for graduation. Component retesting allows a senior who has twice failed the English or Math A Regents Exam to take just the section of the high-stakes exam the student failed, rather than having to retake the entire test. However, the New York State fiscal crisis caused the entire program to be cancelled in July 2010.

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## **NEW RESOLUTIONS**

### **NEW RESOLUTION #1**

#### Education for HIPAA Right to Privacy and Health Care Proxy

- Whereas** the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) follows that individuals between the ages of 12 and 18 have the right to privacy regarding medical information and individuals over the age of 18 must give consent for any person, including parents or guardians, to receive medical information, and
- Whereas** leading health experts agree that the part of the brain that controls thinking skills and risk taking behavior is not fully developed until age 25, and
- Whereas** brain experts have targeted the slower growth of the frontal lobe which regulates impulse control, judgment, insight and emotions stating that teenagers engaging in risky behavior cannot assess the potential consequences, and
- Whereas** these young adults are legally responsible for managing their own healthcare, therefore be it
- Resolved** that the NYS Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge educational institutions to create and deliver programs and make information available regarding HIPAA Privacy Laws and health care proxies to young adults, parents and guardians, and be it further
- Resolved** that the NYS PTA encourage educational institutions to make health care proxy forms available to students upon turning 18, and be it further
- Resolved** that the NYS PTA encourage PTA units and councils to educate parents and school districts about the HIPAA Law and the importance of proper management of a young adults right to privacy, and be it further
- Resolved** that this resolution be forwarded to National PTA for consideration at their convention.

#### **Statement:**

Young adults 18 years of age or older should be advised to complete a health care proxy in order to appoint a medical power of attorney to be their health care agent. Under federal law, The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy and Security Rules, and with a health care proxy, young adults can have their medical concerns addressed while assuring their privacy rights. NYS PTA urges schools and institutions of higher learning to provide education for young adults regarding this issue making forms available to designate a health care proxy in case of emergency.

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## **NEW RESOLUTION #2**

### **Electronic Cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and Youth**

- Whereas** the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Youth Tobacco Surveys from 2011 and 2012 show that e-cigarette use among students doubled in one year's time, and
- Whereas** e-cigarettes contain fruit and candy flavors (such as cherry, chocolate, gummy bear and bubble gum) and use cartoons and celebrities, which are appealing to youth, in their advertising on networks and radio stations such as Teen Nick and Z100 , and
- Whereas** the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has banned such marketing techniques and advertising for cigarettes, and
- Whereas** there are no federal restrictions that would prevent the sale and advertising of e-cigarettes to minors, and
- Whereas** FDA and other analyses have found that e-cigarettes contain a number of toxins, carcinogens and components suspected of being harmful to humans and has acknowledged that consumers of e-cigarette products currently have no way of knowing whether e-cigarettes are safe or how much nicotine or other potentially harmful chemicals are being inhaled, and
- Whereas** there is no regulatory oversight of the manufacturing process, and injuries have occurred from e-cigarettes, and
- Whereas** e-cigarettes contain nicotine which is highly addictive, has immediate biochemical effects on the brain and the body, and is toxic in high doses. According to the CDC, phone calls to poison control centers related to toxic levels of nicotine exposure rose from 1 per month in Sept. 2010 to 215 monthly by Feb. 2014, and
- Whereas** the Tobacco Control Act recognizes that nicotine is an addictive drug and imposes restrictions on advertising and marketing to youth, and
- Whereas** the Tobacco Control Act does not currently include regulations for e-cigarettes, and
- Whereas** the FDA has failed to act on its stated intent to regulate e - cigarettes as a "tobacco product", which e-cigarettes were deemed to be by the US Court of Appeals (Setter, Inc. vs. Food and Drug Administration, 627F.3d89 [DC CIR 2010]), and

- Whereas** the American Academy of Pediatrics, National Association of Attorneys General, American Lung Association, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, and many organizations support e-cigarettes to be regulated as tobacco products, and
- Whereas** many school districts and municipalities have enacted policies to restrict or prohibit the use of e-cigarettes in public places, now therefore be it
- Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers urge the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to issue regulations that will address the manufacturing, ingredients, advertising, marketing and sale of electronic cigarettes, and be it further
- Resolved** that the NYS PTA seek and support legislation that would prohibit the use of e-cigarettes in public places, and be it further
- Resolved** that the NYS PTA urge their units and councils to educate youth, parents, school boards and local officials on the dangers of e-cigarettes, and be it further
- Resolved** that this resolution be forwarded to National PTA for consideration at their convention.

**Statement:**

Electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among youth is a major concern. E-cigarette use in students, grades 6-12, doubled to 1.8 million in one year, according to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 2013 report.

E-cigarettes are an electronic nicotine delivery system that contains a battery, heating element, aerosol and cartridge filled with liquid nicotine and other chemicals. When heated, the cartridge chemicals turn into vapors, which smokers inhale. Nicotine is highly addictive and harmful in any form.

E-cigarette manufacturers are appealing to youth through celebrity endorsements, cartoons, and fruit and candy flavors, via print, television, radio and internet advertisements. NYS prohibits selling tobacco products, including e-cigarettes to minors. In 2011, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) stated its intent to regulate e-cigarettes under the Tobacco Control Act, including sale and marketing to youth, but has failed to act upon its intent. Regulation and education must happen to stop another generation dependent on nicotine.

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## **NEW RESOLUTION #3**

### Social Host Law

- Whereas** the minimum legal drinking age is 21 years as established by the Federal Uniform Drinking Age Act of 1984, yet nearly a quarter of high school students in New York State have engaged in binge drinking; and
- Whereas** the average age at which youth begin drinking is 14, they are more likely to consume larger amounts of alcohol in one sitting than adults, alcohol is typically consumed in the home with or without adult supervision, and the costs of addressing problems caused by underage drinking are significant; and
- Whereas** holding adults legally accountable for providing or knowingly allowing alcohol consumption by minors through a statewide Social Host law may be a strategy that limits underage access; now therefore be it
- Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers encourage and support legislation to adopt statewide social host laws that would prohibit adults from providing alcohol or knowingly allowing the consumption of alcohol by youth under the age of 21 who are not their children.
- Resolved** that the New York State PTA, its units, councils, and regions provide information to students, parents, and community members regarding social host laws.

#### **Statement:**

With the prevalence of binge drinking among high school students in New York State at approximately 23% (New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, 2009), strategies and measures must be implemented to reduce the acceptability of underage drinking and increase the accountability of those who provide alcohol to minors. Environmental conditions, such as the ease of accessing alcohol, are often the deciding factors in whether or not a young person chooses to use alcohol, even with it being illegal to do so if the individual is under the age of 21 (Pacific Institute, 2009; Mothers Against Drunk Driving, 2011).

By enacting a statewide social host law adults are deterred from ignoring this behavior and allowing it to occur; thereby, reducing underage access to alcohol.

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## PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS CHECKLIST

### Retentions:

	YES	NO
1. Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) Parent Member – 2007 (U-'00)	___	___
2. 504 Committees – 2007 (R-'00)	___	___
3. Cellular Phone Towers – 2007 (R-'00)	___	___
4. Supplemental Lottery Aid to Education – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, R-'86)	___	___
5. Pupils with Support Service Needs – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, U-'86)	___	___
6. Children and Youth in Poverty – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, R-'86)	___	___
7. Discharging of Fire Arms Within School Areas – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, R-'86)	___	___
8. Protecting Children and Youth from the Influence of Tobacco Use in Movies – 2007	___	___

### Updates:

	YES	NO
1. Drug Testing in School Districts – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, R-'86)	___	___
2. Indoor Air Quality Guidelines for Schools – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93)	___	___
3. Protection of Groundwater Supplies – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, R-'86)	___	___
4. Soil Contamination on School Grounds – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, R-'86)	___	___
5. Herbal Cigarettes – 2007 (U-'00)	___	___
6. Reasonable Access to Food During School – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93)	___	___
7. Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention – 2007 (R-'00, R-'93, U-'86)	___	___
8. Reinstate and Restructure the Regents Component Retesting System – 2007	___	___

### New Resolutions:

	YES	NO
1. Education for HIPAA Right to Privacy and Health Care Proxy	___	___
2. Electronic Cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and Youth	___	___
3. Social Host Law	___	___