



Resolutions and Legislative Positions

For consideration by the delegates of the annual meeting, July 20, 2018.

Legislative Positions (recommend reaffirmation)

All legislative positions recommended for reaffirmation will be considered in a single motion; however, delegates may remove any legislative position to be considered in its own motion. Delegates may not amend position language.

Education: Dyslexia

PTA supports allowing modifications and/or accommodations on state mandated tests for students with dyslexia and/or related disorders as set forth by the individual student's ARD or "504" committee.

Education: Programs for At-Risk Students

PTA supports extended programs for children at risk.

Health, Welfare and Safety: Gun Safety

PTA supports legislation on gun safety and gun safety education.

Health, Welfare and Safety: TB Testing

PTA supports TB testing of children and school personnel.

Health, Welfare and Safety: Suicide Prevention

PTA supports professional development training for school personnel regarding suicide prevention.

Health, Welfare and Safety: Leave for School Involvement

PTA supports legislation prohibiting discrimination by an employer for allowing an employee to use prearranged vacation time or personal leave to participate in a school activity of the employee's child.

School Finance: Professional Development

PTA supports increased funding for professional development in public schools.

School Finance: Tax Abatements

PTA supports legislation that prohibits school tax abatements and alternatives to attract businesses without public participation as well as concurrence and approval by the board of trustees.

School Finance: Dyslexia

PTA supports state funding for student needs related to dyslexia and associated disorders.

School Finance: Equity

PTA supports increased state spending to achieve financial equity without leveling down.



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Resolutions (recommend reaffirmation)

All resolutions recommended for reaffirmation will be considered in a single motion; however, delegates may remove any resolution to be considered in its own motion. Delegates may not amend resolution language.

Crimes Against Children

- Resolved that anyone convicted of sexual offenses against children should receive the maximum sentence allowed by law and encourage that the offender should be required to serve the full sentence without the option of parole.
- Resolved that anyone convicted of murdering a child should receive the maximum possible sentence allowed by law and encourage that the offender should be required to serve the sentence without the option of parole.

Parental Involvement

- Resolved that Texas PTA encourage teacher preparation programs to include courses on parental involvement.
- Resolved that Texas PTA request the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) to require proficiency in parental involvement for state teacher certification.

Sexually Oriented Businesses

- Resolved that the Texas PTA encourage and support Local PTAs/PTSAs to work with the government officials and policy makers in their communities to ensure that sexually oriented businesses or signs advertising these businesses are not located within 1,000 feet of residential areas, schools, religious facilities, libraries, recreational facilities, public parks, school activity centers or thoroughfares used regularly by school buses transporting children.

Summer Food Service

- Resolved that Texas PTA and its constituent bodies encourage school districts to participate in the Summer Food Service Program.

Legislative Positions (recommend retirement)

School Finance: Tax Abatements

PTA supports legislation to ensure that tax abatements and exemptions are not imposed on school districts without public participation as well as concurrence.

Rationale

Texas PTA has two position statements on tax abatements. The language presented for reaffirmation at the 2018 annual meeting includes the scope of this legislative position. Retiring this position will eliminate duplicate language.



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Special Education Services (recommend adoption)

PTA supports legislation that properly identifies all students in need of special education services and provides the required support in the least restrictive environment.

Rationale

Our existing resolution on special education is reflective of a time when most instruction for special needs students occurred outside the mainstream classroom. New language is needed to encompass the identification process, as well as the learning environment.

**If the Special Education position is adopted, the following resolution will be deemed retired.*

Special Education Class Size (recommend retirement)

- Resolved that Texas PTA bring pressure to bear on the Texas legislature to require that the Texas Education Agency mandate maximum class size for all students classified as needing special education services.
- Resolved that Texas PTA actively lobby that such class size recommendations be made according to handicapping condition and basic tenets of the Individual Educational Plan (IEP).