

RESOLUTION

(Adopted by the 1995 convention delegates)

PERMITS FOR CONCEALED HANDGUNS

- WHEREAS, The PTA in its purposes and programs promotes safety for children, youth, and families; and
- WHEREAS, The National PTA supports restrictions on the purchase of firearms, including background checks, a waiting period, a limit of one per month, and a ban on assault-style weapons; and
- WHEREAS, Statistics on firearm deaths show that more guns on the streets result in more gun linked deaths, such as accidents, homicides, and suicides; and
- WHEREAS, In states that passed concealed weapons bills, violent crime rates increased more than 30 percent, and their overall crime rates significantly exceed Colorado's; and
- WHEREAS, Research published in the New England Journal of Medicine on residential gunshot deaths shows that guns in the home are 43 times more likely to kill the gun's owner, child, spouse, or friend than an intruder; and
- WHEREAS, A Colorado news poll found that 61 percent of Coloradans were opposed to making it easier to carry concealed weapons; and
- WHEREAS, No proof exists that possession of a concealed handgun is actually a deterrent to an attack on a person; and
- WHEREAS, Reports indicate that one-fifth of police officers killed in the line of duty had their own guns turned against them, suggesting that average citizens would have a much higher chance of having their guns used against them; and
- WHEREAS, The Colorado Associations of Chiefs of Police oppose a more liberal policy for the granting of permits to carry concealed guns; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Colorado PTA supports very strict restrictions on the issuance of permits to carry concealed handguns, such that permits are issued only in cases of extreme urgency and need, and the general populace has very limited access; and furthermore be it

Resolved, That the Colorado PTA supports extensive background checks on applicants for concealed handgun permits to ensure that they have no record of felonies or misdemeanor assaults, no juvenile crime record, and no history of serious mental health problems; and furthermore be it

Resolved, That the Colorado PTA supports a requirement that recipients of concealed handgun permits first pass a firearms safety course; and furthermore be it

Resolved, That the Colorado PTA supports legislation banning persons from having concealed handguns in schools.