

RESOLUTION

(Adopted by the 1999 convention delegates)

YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION

WHEREAS, The PTA in its purposes and programs promotes safety for children, youth, and families; and

WHEREAS, Students in schools are vulnerable to the pressures and problems of the society in which they live; and

WHEREAS, The failure to address problems experienced by young children may result in violent behavior; and

WHEREAS, Children and youth have been injured and killed in random shootings, traumatizing entire communities and causing children to live with constant fear and stress; and

WHEREAS, Dealing with the complex problem of youth violence requires cooperation among parents, educators, lawmakers, and law enforcement agencies; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Colorado PTA insist that the Colorado General Assembly provide adequate school funding for more qualified school counselors and violence prevention programs, pass laws for the safe storage of firearms, require gun show and pawn shop dealers to follow the same regulations as licensed dealers, and pass laws banning assault weapons; and be it further

Resolved, That the Colorado PTA encourage schools to raise the awareness of teachers and administrators to the early warning signs of problems that could lead to violence, to provide an adequate number of qualified counselors to deal with students, to provide counseling services and programs for violence prevention, and to provide more opportunity for students to participate in school-sponsored activities; and be it further

Resolved, That the Colorado PTA strongly urge that communication among law enforcement agencies and parents and schools be improved so that they share information about students' threats and acts of violence to promote youth safety.