

RESOLUTION

(Adopted by the 2016 convention delegates)

SUPPORT FOR THE SAFE2TELL[®] PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Safe2Tell[®] provides young people a way to report any threatening behaviors or activities endangering themselves or someone they know, in a way that keeps them safe and anonymous, as a state-funded strategic initiative of the Colorado Department of Law, Office of the Attorney General; and

WHEREAS, The Colorado PTA, founded in 1907, has a long history of promoting the education, health, and well-being of children by influencing state policy and laws in such areas as school safety, including the Safe2Tell[®] program; and

WHEREAS, The number of Safe2Tell[®] reports in the 2014-2015 school year numbered 3,467 with an average yearly increase in use of 53%; and

WHEREAS, more than 600 reports were made to Safe2Tell[®] in November 2015, including bullying/cyberbullying, suicide threats, drug and alcohol, planned school attacks, and cutting as the top categories; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that in 81% of violent incidents in U.S. schools, at least one other person knew about it in advance but did not report it, and

WHEREAS, Colorado PTA supported Senate Bill 14-002, incorporating Safe2Tell[®] under the Colorado Office of the Attorney General and providing funding to ensure that the Safe2Tell[®] reporting tip line, trainings, and education and awareness efforts are available to Colorado students, schools, and communities; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Colorado PTA, its councils, regions, and local units, support the Safe2Tell[®] program to promote youth safety and well-being; and further be it

RESOLVED, that Colorado PTA, its councils, regions, and local units, strongly urge that extensive communication and education regarding the Safe2Tell[®] program among law enforcement agencies, parents, and schools be enhanced to encourage students to report incidents that potentially place children/youth in danger; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the Colorado PTA advocate for adequate funding for the Safe2Tell[®] program, as well as growth and support of the program.