

2011 California State PTA Annual Convention Proposed Business: Legislation Policies for Adoption

Delegates to convention adopt the California State PTA Legislative Policies every two years during odd-numbered years, as is the case this year, 2011. After thorough study, the California State PTA Board of Managers recommends that Legislative Policies 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 11 be adopted with no changes. The Board of Managers recommends changes to Legislative Policies 3, 5, 7 and 9. The policies are listed below with word(s) to be struck shown with a line drawn through them and new wording underlined. In the *California State PTA Toolkit* section 4.2.5 each *italicized policy* includes a procedure as approved by the Board of Managers.

4.2.5a POLICY 1

The State Board of Managers of the California State PTA is responsible for taking action on state legislation, and proposed or qualified statewide ballot measures.

4.2.5b POLICY 2

Legislative measures selected for action by the State Board of Managers must be of statewide significance, and must fit within the Purposes of the PTA and within the framework of the Legislation Platform adopted by the convention delegates.

4.2.5c POLICY 3

Any position on legislation adopted by the California State PTA Board of Managers remains in effect, unless after subsequent review, new action is deemed warranted, and is adopted according to California State PTA procedures. ~~until the subject has been reviewed and new action taken according to adopted procedures.~~

Rationale: The new wording more clearly identifies current practice. Positions on legislative bills are not reviewed unless new information comes to light.

4.2.5d POLICY 4

All positions on legislation taken by the California State PTA Board of Managers shall be posted on the organization's website in a timely manner.

4.2.5e POLICY 5

A unit, council, or district PTA with an interest in a proposed or qualified statewide ballot measure, which pertains to the welfare of children and youth, must determine whether the California State PTA Board of Managers is studying or has taken action, before taking any action locally. ~~If the California State PTA Board of Managers has studied the measure and has made a formal decision not to take action, or has chosen not to consider the measure, then~~ Action may be taken locally if by following the appropriate steps are followed.

Rationale: Clarifies the procedures that a unit, council or district PTA must follow in addressing a statewide ballot measure.

4.2.5f POLICY 6

Any California State PTA action on legislation represents the official position of the organization and shall not be interpreted as representing the personal opinion or conviction of every individual PTA member.

4.2.5g POLICY 7

Unit, council and district PTAs are encouraged to promote the adopted California State PTA position and may be requested to actively support positions taken by California State PTA. While unit, council and district PTAs are not required to work actively for any position, they ~~may~~ should not officially oppose a stand taken by the State

Board of Managers. Unit, council, and district PTAs need not vote to affirm a California State PTA position in order to take action. Expressed membership disapproval of a position on legislation should be communicated to the California State PTA Board of Managers through regular channels, with a report of the extent of and reasons for the disapproval.

Rationale: It is deemed necessary to change this word to comply with IRS regulations regarding affiliated organizations.

4.2.5h POLICY 8

Any unit, council or district PTA may request that the California State PTA Board of Managers consider taking action on state legislation or proposed or qualified statewide ballot measures.

4.2.5i POLICY 9

~~The California State PTA may authorize a~~ A district PTA may wish to take action on a state legislative measure that affects only their its local or regional area. The district PTA affected must ~~consult~~ inform the California State Board of Managers before taking action.

Rationale: Ensures that California State PTA is informed of any positions held by constituent organizations on state legislation.

4.2.5j POLICY 10

Unit, council and district PTAs are responsible for taking action on local issues originating in school districts, cities, regions, or counties, if such action fits within the framework of the Purposes of PTA and Legislation Platform, adheres to PTA policies, and affects the well-being of children and youth.

4.2.5k POLICY 11

Informational material on PTA positions related to legislative issues may be sent home with students, in compliance with local school district policies and procedures.*

**State law requires school districts to adopt policies regarding sending material home with students.*

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