

## 2011 California State PTA Annual Convention Proposed Business: Resolution A

### AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) AWARENESS IN SCHOOLS

- 1 WHEREAS, The California State PTA seeks to promote public policy and actions that protect the health and safety of all children and families; and
- 2 WHEREAS, Each year there are an estimated 295,000 out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrests (SCA) in the United States affecting every age, fitness level, gender and race, killing more than breast cancer, lung cancer and AIDS combined; and
- 3 WHEREAS, It is estimated that in the United States, only 5 percent to 7 percent of those who experience sudden cardiac arrest survive; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Survival rates are reduced by approximately 10 percent for each minute that passes after the onset of sudden cardiac arrest; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Sudden cardiac arrest is reversible in most victims if it is treated within a few minutes with defibrillation to restore a normal heartbeat; and
- 6 WHEREAS, California Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 57—Relative to automated external defibrillator programs, urges all California K-12 public schools to implement an automated external defibrillator program; now therefore be it
- 1 RESOLVED,** That California State PTA urges its units, councils, and districts to encourage local schools and school districts to support the acquisition of AEDs for the school campus; and be it further
- 2 RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA urges its units, councils, and districts to encourage local schools and school districts to implement Public Access Defibrillator Programs that include maintenance, testing and designated site staff training requirements; and be it further
- 3 RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA urges its units, councils and districts to encourage local schools and school districts to collaborate with organizations and foundations to assist with the purchase of AEDs and the implementation of Public Access Defibrillator Programs that include training, testing and records management.

Resolution A, AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) AWARENESS IN SCHOOLS, *continued...*

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**Originating Body:** Health Commission, California State PTA Board of Managers

**Action by PTA Organizations**

(a support position means a PTA body approved sending the resolution forward to convention delegates)

**Position**

California State PTA Board of Managers

Support

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**BACKGROUND SUMMARY**

**Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Awareness in Schools**

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is an electrical malfunction of the heart. Usually the first sign is collapse. Brain damage begins within four to six minutes. The only effective treatment for SCA is defibrillation. An automated external defibrillator (AED) is a simple, small, portable device approved by the FDA for use by laypersons. The AED restores the victim's heart to a normal rhythm.

Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) Programs place AEDs in visible, accessible, public locations. SCA can happen to anyone at any time, with no warning. It is estimated that one in every 500 children have an undetected heart condition, and often the first sign is SCA.

Time is critical. In most cases the question of life or death is determined before professional help arrives.

PTAs throughout California can protect the safety and well-being of children by raising awareness about AEDs in schools and by urging school districts to implement PAD programs.

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## 2011 California State PTA Annual Convention Proposed Business: Resolution B

### SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) EDUCATION

- 1 WHEREAS, The California State PTA believes that to remain competitive in a global society, the United States has a responsibility to provide educational programs and support services to develop responsible, productive citizens for tomorrow; and
- 2 WHEREAS, The U.S. education system K-12 does not adequately prepare students with skills in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to compete for jobs in the 21<sup>st</sup> century global workforce; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Many ethnic minorities and women have historically been underrepresented among those who earn STEM degrees; and
- 4 WHEREAS, A shortage of highly qualified STEM teachers and a lack of teacher training, preparation and professional development in STEM education results in young people lacking the necessary skills in science, technology, engineering and math to work in the new global economy; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Science, technology, engineering and mathematics education is an important national issue; now therefore be it
- 1 RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA, its units, councils and districts work with policymakers, business and educators to support efforts to improve STEM education, enabling more students to acquire skills for access to higher education and employment in the 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce; and be it further
- 2 RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA, its units, councils and districts support efforts to address the underrepresentation of minorities and women in STEM fields; and be it further
- 3 RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA, its units, councils and districts support legislation for recruitment, innovative training, and professional development for STEM educators; and be it further
- 4 RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA, its units, councils and districts encourage the integration of science, technology, engineering and mathematics into everyday activities; and be it further

*Resolution B, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) EDUCATION, continued...*

**5 RESOLVED**, That the California State PTA, its units, councils and districts increase awareness of opportunities available to students educated in STEM careers; and be it further

**6 RESOLVED**, That the California State PTA submit this resolution to the National PTA for consideration at the National PTA convention.

**Originating Body:** Education Commission, California State PTA Board of Managers

**Action by PTA Organizations**

(a support position means a PTA body approved sending the resolution forward to convention delegates)

**Position**

Peralta District PTA	Support
Fremont Council PTA	Support
Centerville Jr. High PTSA	Support
California State PTA Board of Managers	Support

**BACKGROUND SUMMARY**

**Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education**

Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) employment opportunities are predicted to grow faster than the average of all other jobs, but the number of U.S. college graduates prepared for STEM careers will not meet the demand. This shortfall is aggravated by two factors: U.S. students, on average, are scoring below many developed nations in scientific knowledge and literacy; and women and certain minorities are underrepresented in STEM education.

The California Task Force on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education has created a framework for policy and support of California’s schools to enhance California’s competitiveness in the global economy. Further, in 2010, the National Science Board identified major areas of need: policies that support rigorous STEM preparation for teachers; the nurture of STEM potential in all demographics of students, especially in economically disadvantaged urban and rural areas; and a supportive culture of parents, educators and students that celebrates innovative thinking and academic excellence.

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