

# California State PTA Legislation Policies

*Adopted May 2017*

Policies are presented to convention delegates for adoption in odd-numbered years.

Procedures are adopted by California State PTA Board of Managers.

Policies are italicized; procedures are not italicized.

A legislative measure is considered to include bills (state and federal), legislative ballot measures (statutory, constitutional amendments placed on the ballot by the legislature), proposed statewide initiative petitions, and initiatives that have qualified for the statewide ballot.

## **Policy 1**

*The California State PTA is responsible for taking action on state and federal legislative measures, and proposed or qualified statewide ballot measures.*

## **Policy 2**

*Legislative measures selected for action by the California State PTA must be of statewide significance, fit within both the Purposes of the PTA and the legislation platform adopted by the convention delegates, as well as other relevant PTA authorities.*

## **Policy 3**

*Any position on legislative measures adopted by the California State PTA remains in effect, unless, after subsequent review, new action is deemed warranted, and is adopted according to California State PTA procedures.*

## **Policy 4**

*All positions on legislative measures taken by the California State PTA shall be posted on the association's website in a timely manner.*

## **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 is studying or has taken action, before considering any action locally. Action may be taken locally by following PTA's standard procedure for making a study.*

## **Policy 6**

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

## **Policy 7**

*Unit, council and district PTAs are encouraged to promote adopted California State PTA positions on legislative measures and may be requested to actively support them which does not require a local vote affirming the state position. While unit, council and district PTAs are not required to work actively for any position, they should not officially oppose a stand taken by the California State PTA. Disagreement with a position on legislative measures should be communicated to the California State PTA through regular channels, with a report of the extent of – and reasons for – the disagreement, including supporting PTA authorities.*

## **Policy 8**

*Any unit, council or district PTA may request that the California State PTA consider taking action on a legislative measure.*

## **Policy 9**

*A district, council or unit PTA may wish to take action on a state legislative measure that affects only its local or regional area. The district PTA affected must inform the California State PTA before taking a position.*

## **Policy 10**

*Unit, council and district PTAs may take action on local issues originating in school districts, cities, regions, or counties, if such action fits within both the Purposes of PTA and legislation platform, adopted by convention delegates, is supported by PTA authorities, adheres to PTA policies, and affects the well-being of children and youth.*

## **Policy 11**

*Informational (non-advocacy) material on PTA positions related to legislative issues, including local or statewide ballot measures, 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.