

ADMISSION OF MINORS TO R-RATED FILMS

Adopted by Convention Delegates May 6, 1981

Reviewed by Board of Managers November 2010

- WHEREAS,** R-Rated films contain more explicit human sexuality, stronger obscenities, more graphic violence and are more frightening than PG-rated films; and
- WHEREAS,** Theater owners and/or managers have voluntarily agreed not to admit minor children and youth under the age of 17, unaccompanied by a parent or guardian, to such R-rated films; however, a majority of theater owners and/or managers are selling tickets to children and youth under the age of 17, unaccompanied by a parent or guardian, and many children and youth use an older friend or stranger to purchase such tickets for them; and
- WHEREAS,** In many multiple theater complexes where G, PG and R-rated films are shown concurrently, children and youth under the age of 17 move from theater to theater without adequate supervision; therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA reaffirm the position taken at the 1977 convention in the resolution entitled “Admittance of Children to Adult Rated Films;” and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA request the theater owners and/or managers through their national organizations to uphold their voluntary commitment to ban the sale of tickets to children and youth under the age of 17 unless accompanied by a parent or guardian, and in the cases of multiple theaters, adequately supervise to ensure that children and youth under the age of 17 do not gain access to R-rated films; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That a copy of this resolution be sent to the National PTA and all state congresses requesting they take similar action.

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BACKGROUND SUMMARY

The 1977 resolution directed that the California State PTA through its units, councils and districts continue to promote its program to alert and inform all parents as to the contents of films as rated by the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA); and that the California State PTA and the National PTA urge their constituent organizations to encourage the management of multi-screened theaters to ensure that no children or youth gain access where X-rated movies are shown.

This resolution is much stronger.

A recent survey conducted by the Los Angeles CBS television station and its Chicago affiliate indicated that approximately 60% of the theaters in those areas do not adhere to their voluntary commitment and are admitting and/or selling tickets to children and youth under the age of 17 without permission of parent or guardian.