

BAN ON DRUG PARAPHERNALIA

Adopted by Convention Delegates May 6, 1981

Reviewed by Board of Managers March 2012

- WHEREAS,** PTA supports legislation to prevent, control or eliminate hazards to the health, safety and well-being of all children and youth; and
- WHEREAS,** Abuse of controlled substances has been proved to have harmful physical and psychological effects, and tends to increase community problems such as crime, accidents and child abuse; and
- WHEREAS,** The manufacture, advertisement, display and sale of drug paraphernalia tends to glamorize, facilitate, encourage and condone illegal use of controlled substances; and
- WHEREAS,** Although it is a violation of the law to use certain controlled substances, it is an obvious hypocrisy that the paraphernalia to use them is readily available to adults; and
- WHEREAS,** The continued manufacture, advertisement, display and sale of such devices and information is contrary to the best interest of youth and society; and
- WHEREAS,** Current law concerning drug paraphernalia prohibits persons under the age of 18 from entering a room within a business where drug paraphernalia is displayed or sold unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA encourage its units, councils and districts to seek the passage of city/county ordinances to ban the manufacture, advertisement, display and sale of such paraphernalia used, designed for or intended for use with illegal drugs or other controlled illegal substances; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA urge the California Legislature to enact legislation banning the manufacture, advertisement, display and sale of paraphernalia used, designed for or intended for use with illegal drugs or other controlled illegal substances; and to provide the appropriate legal penalties for continued manufacture, advertisement, display and sale of such items; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA forward this resolution to the National PTA for consideration by the delegates at the National PTA convention in 1981.

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BACKGROUND SUMMARY

The National PTA 1980-81 Legislative Program specified as one of its Health and Welfare policies: “to provide regulation of manufacture, advertising or sales of products hazardous to children and youth.” In addition, the National PTA Board of Directors in Legislative Directive 80-6 recommended the model anti-drug paraphernalia law developed by the U.S. Department of Justice as a guide for states and municipalities, and further recommended monitoring of such state and local legislation prohibiting the sale of drug paraphernalia to minors.

At its 1979 convention, the California State PTA adopted a resolution seeking to ban the display and sale of drug-use information and paraphernalia to minors.

The law referred to in the sixth Whereas became effective January 1981.

The provisions of this resolution are based on the recommendations of the model anti-drug paraphernalia law of the U.S. Department of Justice which prohibits the manufacture, advertisement, display and sale of drug paraphernalia to all persons.