

DRUG ABUSE PROGRAM FUNDING - PENALTY ASSESSMENT

Adopted by Convention Delegates May 7, 1980

Reviewed by Board of Managers April 2010

- WHEREAS, Drug abuse is a widespread, serious problem in the community; and
- WHEREAS, Current resources for the education, prevention and treatment of drug abuse are now inadequate and in danger of further curtailment; and
- WHEREAS, Penalty assessments, added to fines levied on drug-related criminal activity, could assist in supporting drug abuse education and treatment; therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA seek and support legislation which:
- A. Would attach penalty assessments on fines for drug-related crimes.
 - B. Would direct that this additional money from the penalty assessment fund be available for use within each county to supplement the drug program portion of the county Short-Doyle plan, for drug abuse education, prevention and treatment.

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BACKGROUND SUMMARY

Drug abuse among our youth continues to be a major health and social concern. The need to find new sources of funding for drug abuse education, prevention and treatment in light of current and anticipated budget cutbacks is a well established fact—and urgent.

Although the State Department of Education was once a leading resource for prevention-related training and information for school districts throughout the state, presently there are no funds for substance abuse prevention and education within the department.

This resolution is based on the condition that at a time when drug abuse among youth appears on the upswing, funding for drug abuse programs is on the downswing, possibly becoming nonexistent.

The concept of this resolution is similar in nature to the use of driver fines for Driver Education.