WHEREAS, The Education Code permits the governing board of school districts to employ such personnel as may be necessary to act as guards at pedestrian crossings to ensure the safety of school children who use such intersections; and

WHEREAS, Current Education Code provisions stipulate that school districts may be reimbursed from fines and forfeitures deposited in a special fund of the cities and/or counties, known as the Traffic Safety Fund, for the costs of providing school adult crossing guards; and

WHEREAS, The reimbursement of school districts from the Traffic Safety Fund for the costs of providing school adult crossing guards is permissive on the cities and/or counties; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the California State PTA seek and support legislation to require that monies from the Traffic Safety Fund shall be used to reimburse school districts for the costs of adult crossing guards.

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BACKGROUND SUMMARY

Legislation (SB 2199) which took effect in January 1981, enabled school districts to hire crossing guards when cities and/or counties refused to do so. (Education Code Sections 45450, 51 and 52.) The cities and/or counties were authorized to fund such programs, on a permissive basis, from the Traffic Safety Fund established under the Vehicle Code [Sections 42200 and 42201(c)]. These Vehicle Code provisions state that the monies collected by the cities and/or counties from fines and forfeitures and deposits of bail shall be used for traffic control devices, the maintenance thereof, equipment and supplies for traffic law enforcement and traffic accident prevention, and may be used to pay the compensation of school crossing guards. Some cities and/or counties have been unwilling to appropriate monies from the Traffic Safety Fund for school crossing guards. If legislation were enacted in which the intent of the resolution were included, cities and/or counties would be required to use this fund for financing the adult crossing guard programs.