## STATE GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR A RATIONAL BUDGET PROCESS

Adopted by Board of Managers October 1992 Reviewed by Board of Managers March 2013

WHEREAS, California business, industry and society depend upon and need a well-educated labor force to compete successfully in the national and world market places; and

WHEREAS, Changing demographics and public recognition of the importance of education to the state and the nation have placed new demands and expectations on California's public schools; and

WHEREAS, The failure to properly provide the resources necessary for a quality public school system able to educate students for the technological and sophisticated workplace of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century raises serious questions about California's future economic health and stability; and

WHEREAS, It is a recognized fact that children need proper nutrition, health care and decent shelter to enable them to benefit from the education process; and

WHEREAS, It is a fact that far too many children in California are homeless, malnourished and have no access to the health care system; and

WHEREAS, California's current tax base is dangerously narrow, yielding revenues inadequate to provide the services the citizens need and deserve; and

WHEREAS, The California State PTA believes the true problem causing the state's budget crisis is the patchwork crazyquilt of the state's tax structure; and

WHEREAS, The California State PTA has adopted a position statement on State Tax Reform, and has advocated closing tax loopholes and ending tax inequities; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the California State PTA, its units, councils and districts call upon the Governor and Legislature to work together to develop a budget that meets the needs of the most important segment of the state's population, our children; a budget that enables schools to maintain a quality education program, that provides shelter for homeless families and that gives access to health care for all children not covered by health insurance; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That the California State PTA urge the Governor and Legislature to make every effort to prevent future budget crises by cooperating to give the people what they deserve: A rational, progressive, equitable system of taxation that provides needed services, places the greatest tax burden on those most able to pay it, and ends, once and for all, the threat of an annual budget debacle.

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