

1.9 Furnishing Alcohol to Minors

Resolution passed 1990; amended 2007; amended 2013

Whereas, two of the purposes of Washington State PTA are to “promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, places of worship and throughout the community;” and to “advocate for laws that further the education, physical and mental health, welfare, and safety of children and youth;” and

Whereas, 28 percent of Washington state 10th-graders and 40 percent of 12th-graders reported having a drink in the past month, and students in grades 6 to 12 that drank in the last month reported it was easy to get alcohol from friends, at parties or from home; and

Whereas, youth who begin drinking by the age of 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who wait for adulthood to use alcohol; and

Whereas, Washington state law states that “it is unlawful for any person to sell, give, or otherwise supply liquor to any person under the age of twenty-one years or permit any person under that age to consume liquor on his or her premises or any premises under his or her control;” and

Whereas, underage drinking cost the citizens of Washington state \$1.4 billion in 2007.

Therefore, be it

Resolved, that Washington State PTA encourages its local PTAs and councils to inform and educate the membership about ways to cooperate with the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board and law enforcement agencies in reporting “furnishing liquor to minors” violations; and be it further

Resolved, that Washington State PTA will work with local PTAs, councils, regions, state agencies, associations and education officials to develop and implement a program that deals with the use of alcohol by students, with consequences that are applied to all students, throughout the state, regardless of community, socio-economics of the student and/or parents, or the impact to the school, school-sponsored teams or school-sponsored activities; and be it further

Resolved, that Washington State PTA will encourage its local PTAs, councils, and regions to develop and implement programs that address underage drinking, social hosting, and educating parents on the impact of alcohol abuse on the life-long health, safety, and well-being of their children.