

18.31 Financial Literacy

Resolution passed October 2014

Whereas, the National Financial Literacy Test conducted by National Financial Educators Council in 2013 revealed that of the youth in 35 states who completed the exam, 72.2% scored a failing grade; and

Whereas, according to the 2013 Consumer Financial Literacy Survey published by Harris Interactive, a reputable polling firm, that many adults (40% 2013, 42% 2012, 41% 2011) now give themselves a grade of C, D or F on their knowledge of personal finance, marking a statistically significant change from 2010, when as many as nearly 2 in 3 adults (65%) gave themselves an A or B; and

Whereas, Washington state ranks as one of the worst states in the nation for financial literacy requirements as reflected in a study by Champlain College; and

Whereas, members of congress in 2013 sponsored HR 2920 which would create incentive grants to states that agree to provide financial literacy education in Title 1 public elementary and secondary schools; and

Whereas, states like California, which also ranked low by the Champlain College Survey, are making strides in the last legislative session to improve educational opportunities for financial literacy.

Therefore, be it

Resolved, that Washington State PTA will work with other advocates and legislative partners to increase opportunities for Washington state's children to have access to financial literacy courses and materials.