2.15 E-911 Safety Training for Youth

Resolution passed 2014

*Whereas*, as of 2012 more than 39% of American homes report that they have discontinued use of traditional landlines and rely solely on cellular telephone service; and

*Whereas*, over 70% of all 911 calls originate from a wireless device; and

*Whereas*, under current FCC rules, wireless devices can be pinpointed only in latitude and longitudinal directions which may leave questions for emergency personnel as to where a victim may be located in a multi-story building; and

*Whereas*, the proposed changes to FCC rules to use “Z-Axis” coordinate mapping for emergency personnel receiving cellular calls from indoor origins will not go into effect for at least 2 to 5 years; and

*Whereas*, even should the FCC mandate the rules change and cellular companies quickly comply, many jurisdictions still do not utilize up-to-date technology for their Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP); and

*Whereas*, many children are growing up in households that are Cellular Phone Only and may not understand the need to identify their location when calling 911 to report an incident; and

*Whereas*, many of Washington state’s children would benefit from simply educating them always to be observant of their surroundings and how to effectively use the 911 system.

Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that Washington State PTA will encourage adoptions of laws and policies to ensure children are sufficiently trained on the importance of how to use the 911 system.