

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.