

CFWC ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

2016-18

ART COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM

010-007

INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS IN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

(Convention 1990, Reaffirmed 1995, Reaffirmed 2000, Reaffirmed 2005, Reaffirmed 2010, Reaffirmed 2015)

Whereas, In the arts, aesthetic knowledge and means of communication gained through the training of the visual senses and creative effort are recognized, together with historical and scientific knowledge, as bases to complete education of the individual; and

Whereas, Training for the arts is costly, lengthy and grueling, and little opportunity may exist for the recognition and presentation of talent; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT IN VIEW OF THE CURTAILMENT OF FUNDS FOR THE ARTS IN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES, THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES ITS MEMBER CLUBS TO ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE VISUAL, CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS IN THE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES.

010-008

MUSEUMS (Convention 1990, Reaffirmed 1995, Reaffirmed 2000, Reaffirmed 2005, Amended 2010, Reaffirmed 2015)

Whereas, The GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs believes in the creation of better understanding and knowledge of the unique and important aspects of preservation of the culture and heritage of all peoples; and

Whereas, With the current economic situation, it is imperative that emphasis be given to the preservation of entities and organizations that support our cultural heritage; and

Whereas, Museums preserve and interpret the cultures and mores of peoples; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES MEMBER CLUBS TO BE ACTIVE IN MAINTAINING EXISTING MUSEUMS IN THEIR LOCAL AREAS.

CONSERVATION COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM

011-011

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL (SMOG EMISSIONS) (Convention 1970, Reaffirmed 1988, Amended/ Reaffirmed 1993, Amended/Reaffirmed 1998, Reaffirmed 2003, Amended/Reaffirmed 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, "Smog" is a major nation-wide air pollution problem that requires compulsory action; and

Whereas, Scientists have determined that automobiles omissions are a major cause of this menace to health; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES THAT THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATORS AND CALIFORNIA AUTHORITIES FURTHER INITIATE AND COORDINATE ACTION IN SUPPORT OF CLEAN AIR, WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

011-013

ANTI-LITTER (Convention 1970, Reaffirmed 1987, 1993, Reviewed 1998, Amended/Reaffirmed 2003, Reaffirmed 2008, amended 2013)

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES

MEMBERS TO EDUCATE THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS AS TO THE UGLINESS OF LITTER , THE POLLUTION OF OCEAN, LAKES AND RIVERS AND TO THE NEED TO ADHERE TO ANTI-LITTER LAWS.

011-017

BIODEGRADABLE PACKAGING AND RECYCLABLE MATERIALS (Convention 1989,

Amended/Reaffirmed 1994, Amended/Reaffirmed 1998, Amended 2003, Amended 2009, Reviewed 2014)

Whereas, The GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs has been in the forefront in conservation of natural resources in urging that biodegradable substitutes be found for Styrofoam and plastics in every form; and

Whereas, Manufacturers of containers are continuing to supply grocery store chains with a choice of paper bags or recyclable plastic bags; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES CONTINUED RESEARCH INTO THE RECYCLING OF PLASTICS AND BIODEGRADABLE PRODUCTS INTO VIABLE DOMESTIC AND RECREATIONAL PRODUCTS.

011-024

DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS WASTE (Convention 1986, Reaffirmed 1993, 1998, Reaffirmed 2003, Reaffirmed 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, The disposal of hazardous wastes is of great concern; and

Whereas, The transportation of hazardous wastes is potentially perilous to human health and the environment; and

Whereas, The potential for ground water contamination is increased by improper and unproved methods of disposal of hazardous wastes; therefore be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO:

- 1) PLACE A MORATORIUM ON DEEP WELL INJECTION OF HAZARDOUS WASTES,
- 2) PROVIDE FOR NEUTRALIZATION AND/OR DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS WASTES AT THE GENERATOR SITE,
- 3) CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE WHEREBY LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES WILL WORK IN A COOPERATIVE MANNER WITH THE WASTE GENERATORS, TRANSPORTERS AND WASTE DISPOSAL SITE

OPERATORS TO MINIMIZE EFFECT OF HAZARDOUS WASTE ON HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT,

4) ENCOURAGE THE RESOLUTION OF HAZARDOUS WASTE CONFLICTS THROUGH NEGOTIATION WHERE POSSIBLE.

011-027

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FROM OFF-ROAD VEHICLES IN THE STATE PARK

SYSTEM (Convention 1988, Amended/Reaffirmed 1993, Reaffirmed 1998, Reaffirmed 2003, Reaffirmed 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, The GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs, whose efforts and financial support in large measure led to the establishment of the State Park System, has supported protection of the endangered environment; and

Whereas, California law bans from State Parks vehicles that cannot be driven on city streets such as three and four wheel all-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes and some dune buggies, as endangering archeological and environmentally sensitive areas; and

Whereas, Existing public and private lands are available for such vehicles; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS GOES ON

RECORD AS OBJECTING TO INFRACTIONS OF CURRENT STATE LAW AND INSIST THAT THE STATE LAW BE UPHELD.

011-029

FILING BANKRUPTCY TO AVOID ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ENFORCEMENT (Convention 1985, Reviewed 1993, Amended/Reaffirmed Convention 1998, Reviewed 2004, Amended 2009, Reviewed 2014)

Whereas, The GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs have made disposal of hazardous waste and the cleanup of hazardous waste sites top priorities; and

Whereas, The United States Congress enacted laws giving the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) power and funds to regulate and enforce the disposal of hazardous waste and the cleanup of hazardous waste sites, thus mandating the state work toward these ends; and

Whereas, The United States Supreme Court subsequently ruled, due to a loophole in the law, that an industrial polluter can avoid an injunction ordering disposal of hazardous waste and/or cleanup of hazardous waste sites by filing bankruptcy, thus hindering EPA enforcement; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS DEMAND THAT THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS CLOSE THE LOOPHOLE ALLOWING THE USE OF THE FEDERAL BANKRUPTCY LAW TO AVOID EPA ENFORCEMENT; and further

RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE SENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA).

011-038

GREENHOUSE EFFECT (Convention 1989, Substitute Resolution 1994, Reviewed 1999, Amended 2004, Amended 2007, Amended 2012)

Whereas, Sunlight reaching the earth's surface becomes heat that is radiated back to space; and

Whereas, The gases in our atmosphere that allow the sun's energy to reach the earth's surface also re-reflect part of the outgoing heat back to the earth, resulting in a natural "greenhouse effect"; and

Whereas, Man's consumption of fossil fuels and man's production of methane, chlorofluorocarbons (CFC), and ground-level ozone are changing the chemistry of the atmosphere such that more heat may be reflected and global temperatures may rise significantly; and

Whereas, The United States produces many of the global greenhouse gas emissions, and the transportation sector in the US relies upon petroleum for most of its energy needs, the majority of the petroleum consumed in the US is imported from other countries, and the use of alternative fueled vehicles can significantly reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases; and

Whereas, Although there is still some uncertainty as to what extent the earth's temperature may rise, the potential environmental threat and risks associated with global warming are potentially very significant to Americans; and

Whereas, The rise in global temperatures may cause changes in rainfall patterns and crop growth, a rise in sea level, beach erosion, decline of fisheries, loss of coastal wetlands, salt water contamination of drinking water, increased power demand for air conditioning, and extinction of species that are incapable of adapting to climate change; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES GFWC AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT POLICIES THAT REQUIRE:

- 1.) IMPLEMENTING ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES THROUGH REDUCED ENERGY COSTS; and
- 2.) ADOPTION OF A DATE WHEN THE U.S. WOULD BE CARBON NEUTRAL; and
- 3.) SUPPORTING ANY STATE'S EFFORTS TO SWITCH TO NAUTRAL GAS, ALTERNATIVE ENERGY, AND ELECTRIC VEHICLES WHERE THESE CHANGES WILL RESULT IN DECREASED GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

011-039

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (Convention 1989, Amended/Reaffirmed 1994, Reviewed 1999, Amended 2004, Amended 2009, Reviewed 2014)

Whereas, Hazardous waste recycling plants and chemical companies experimenting with dangerous

chemicals and toxic materials have not assessed the dangers to the public health, safety and general welfare; and

Whereas, Hazardous waste recycling plants and chemical experimental plants cannot be evaluated before construction and operation as to the acceptable level of risk to the public; and

Whereas, The inversion that extends for considerable periods over cities suppresses the dissipation of pollutants and thereby aggravates the dangers to the public; and

Whereas, Liability insurance carried by operators/owners of these recycling facilities and by cities has been difficult to assess or obtain; and

Whereas, Transport of hazardous waste and toxic materials to these recycling facilities could cause great risk and dangers to the public in view of the rapid population growth and heavily congested traffic routes; and

Whereas, The State of California has required that all counties establish a hazardous waste disposal plan; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES ITS CLUB WOMEN TO USE THEIR COUNTY'S HAZARDOUS WASTE RECYCLING CENTERS; and further

RESOLVED, THAT GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS CLUB WOMEN, IF BECOMING AWARE OF ANY LAPSE IN ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS AT THESE HAZARDOUS WASTE RECYCLING CENTERS, ARE URGED TO ADDRESS THEIR CONCERNS TO THEIR COUNTY AND CITY OFFICIALS

011-046

OFF-SHORE DRILLING (Convention 1984, reviewed 1993, Reaffirmed 1998, Amended/Reaffirmed

2003, Reaffirmed 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, The United States is dependent upon foreign sources for a large percentage of our petroleum products; and

Whereas, The Arab Oil Embargo of 1973 threatened the United States economy and another crisis could occur; and

Whereas, New technology for safety and efficient production on off-shore leases has lessened oil spills; therefore be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS GOES ON

RECORD AS SUPPORTING OFF-SHORE DRILLING TO AUGMENT OUR NATIONAL RESOURCES.

011-061

STEEL SHOT FOR HUNTING (Convention 1987, Reaffirmed 1993, Reviewed 1998, Amended 2003, Reaffirmed 2008, Amended 2013)

Whereas, Lead shot continues to be used in hunting and lead sinkers in fishing; and

Whereas, It is known that California condors, golden eagles, and bald eagles have died by poisoning from lead consumption; and

Whereas, Symptoms of lead poisoning include progressive blindness and weakness, leading to additional deaths from accidents and other illnesses; and

Whereas, Steel shot is non-toxic to waterfowl, fish eagles, condors and other wildlife; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES ITS MEMBER CLUBS TO WORK WITH THEIR LOCAL GUN AND FISHING CLUBS TO EDUCATE AND ENCOURAGE THEIR MEMBERS TO USE SHOT AND REFRAIN FROM THE USE OF LEAD.

011-062

STRATOSPHERIC OZONE DEPLETION (Convention 1989, Reaffirmed 1993, Reviewed 1998,

Amended 2003, Amended 2009, Reaffirmed 2014)

Whereas, Some of the measured damage to the ozone layer has been caused by chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) emissions released as long ago as the 1970s; and

Whereas, Even if CFC production were halted today, ozone depletion would continue far into the future due to previous CFC releases; and

Whereas, The development of hydro chlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) has contributed to reducing the amount of CFC reaching the stratosphere; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS THE USE OF AND CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES FOR CFC REFRIGERANTS; and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS THE CONTINUED BAN OF CFCs AS SPRAY PROPELLANTS AND THE ELIMINATION OF THE USE OF CFCs IN THE MANUFACTURE OF POLYSTYRENE PRODUCTS; and further

RESOLVED, THAT EMISSION CONTROLS CONTINUE TO BE REQUIRED ON ALL INDUSTRIAL OPERATIONS USING CHLORINATED SOLVENTS.

011-067

COASTAL WATERS (Convention 2004, Reviewed 2009, 2014)

Whereas, Clean water is essential to health; and

Whereas, Polluted coastal water is unhealthy; and

Whereas, Man has limited control over tidal action; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS DEMANDS THAT THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATORS AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS UPHOLD ALL EXISTING LEGISLATION THAT ENSURES PUBLIC WATERS AND COASTAL AREAS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA SHALL BE POLLUTION FREE OF SATURATION BY DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL WASTES; and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS STRONGLY URGES CALIFORNIA'S OFFICIALS TO WORK WITH MEXICO AND THE RELEVANT COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL AMERICA TO ENSURE THE NON-POLLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL AREA BY DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE; and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS ASKS THAT ALL MEMBER CLUBS INITIATE AN ANNUAL LETTER CAMPAIGN TO THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THIS PROBLEM IS RESOLVED.

011-068

RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION OF FREIGHT

(Convention 2005, Amended 2010, Amended 2015)

Whereas, Safety on the highways and streets of our state is of prime importance to the welfare of all California residents, and

Whereas, Freight volumes are expected to grow more than 65% by 2020 and trucks are expected to move over 75% more tons of freight by 2020 which will make congestion worse on our overcrowded highways, and

Whereas, We must pursue growth options designed to move goods as safely and efficiently as possible, and

Whereas, How our nation's freight is transported directly impacts our quality of life, the strength of our economy, the number of available jobs, the safety on our highways, and

Whereas, One intermodal train can carry 280 truck trailers, and more shipments by rail will mean less congested and safer highways, and

Whereas, Rail moves one ton of freight more than 480 miles on just one gallon of fuel, thus reducing harmful air pollutants by 6 to 12 times. Railroads are three or more times more fuel efficient than trucks. Shifting only 10% of the long-haul freight that currently moves by truck to rail would save in excess of one (1) billion gallons of fuel per year; therefore

RESOLVED: THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS GOES ON RECORD IN SUPPORT OF EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS TO HIGHWAY CONGESTION, A CLEANER ENVIRONMENT, AND IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE BY ADVOCATING FOR INCREASED USE OF FREIGHT RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION; and further

RESOLVED, THAT LEGISLATION EFFECT AN OPTIMAL BALANCE IN FUNDING HIGHWAY AND RAILROAD IMPROVEMENTS.

011-069

STATE PARK CLOSURES (Convention 2008, amended/reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, Many California State Parks have been closed or may be closed and represent some of the most significant cultural, historic and natural resources, as well as the most unique environmental treasures of the State of California; and

Whereas, Many California State Beaches slated for closure account for over 24 million visitors each year and the loss of lifeguards would threaten visitors' health and safety; and

Whereas, California State Park funding has already been reduced to a critical level, amassing millions of dollars in deferred maintenance; and

Whereas, At a time when the public sector is encouraging Californians to become more active and to engage in outdoor pursuits, these budget cuts will close hundreds of miles of hiking and riding trails and put beachgoers at risk; and

Whereas, State Park closures will impact millions of Californians including families, teachers and school children who visit and experience the State's history and natural beauty without spending a lot of money; and

Whereas, California State Parks protect our environment, our health, our history and our communities; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN'S CLUBS OF GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS JOIN TOGETHER TO DO ALL WITHIN THEIR POWER TO ENSURE THAT, IN THE CURRENT STATE BUDGET CRISIS, CALIFORNIA LEGISLATORS FULLY RESTORE ALL STATE PARK FUNDING

EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM

012-082

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TRAINING (Convention 1958, Reaffirmed 1988, Reviewed 1993, Reaffirmed 1998, Amended/Reaffirmed 2003, Amended/Reaffirmed 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES THAT LEGISLATION BE ENACTED TO PROVIDE FOR TEACHING ONE OR MORE FOREIGN LANGUAGES BEGINNING AT OR NEAR THE THIRD-GRADE LEVEL IN ORDER TO EQUIP OUR CHILDREN TO OVERCOME LANGUAGE BARRIERS IN TODAY'S WORLD.

012-087

LIBRARY FUNDING (Convention 1995, substitute for above, Amended/Reaffirmed 2000, Amended/Reaffirmed 2006, Amended 2011, Reaffirmed 2016)

Whereas, The General Federation of Women's Clubs has a long history of library support. By the 1930s seventy-five percent of our nation's libraries had been started by women's clubs as credited by the American Library Association; and

Whereas, We share continued concern for our public libraries experiencing funding decreases, reduced hours, closed buildings and fewer libraries; and

Whereas, We need the very best public, school and college libraries now; and

Whereas, We acknowledge that in the information age, libraries help ensure that we have the information we need to live, learn and work; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS LEGISLATION FOR BUILDING NEW LIBRARIES, FUNDING INCREASED HOURS FOR PERSONNEL, REPAIRING EXISTING FACILITIES, UPGRADING TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS, AND ENHANCING STUDY CONDITIONS FOR LIBRARY USERS.

012-089

PROGRAM CONTENT AND SCHEDULING (TV) (Convention 1982, Reaffirmed 1987, Reaffirmed 1993, Amended/Reaffirmed 1998, Amended/Reaffirmed 2003, Amended/Reaffirmed 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, Violence, crime and sex on television today has become so explicit; and

Whereas, This type of programming has expanded into "prime time"; and

Whereas, The American public has come to accept this as a way of life; therefore

RESOLVED, THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS PROTESTS TELEVISION AND CABLE PROGRAMS USING VIOLENCE, CRIME AND SEX; and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS REQUESTS MAJOR TV AND CABLE NETWORKS TO RECONSIDER PROGRAM CONTENT AND SCHEDULING AND TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO REDUCE VIOLENCE, CRIME, AND SEX PROGRAMMING, PARTICULARLY IN PRIME TIME; and further

RESOLVED, THAT GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES ITS MEMBERS NOT TO PATRONIZE MAJOR TELEVISION OR CABLE NETWORKS BROADCASTING THIS TYPE OF PROGRAMING.

012-106

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (Convention 2000, Amended/Reaffirmed 2006, Amended 2011, Amended/Reaffirmed 2016)

Whereas, Each year in California children are killed or injured while walking to and from school; and

Whereas, The Safe Routes to School Program provides competitive grants to local governments to improve safety by installing new crosswalks, building bicycle paths and implementing traffic calming programs in neighborhoods around schools; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS ENCOURAGE THE FORMATION OF A COMMUNITY MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM TO IDENTIFY PROBLEMS AND IMPLEMENT SOLUTIONS, INCLUDING THE USE OF EXISTING GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND FUNDING SOURCES.

012-107

FUNDING OF K-12 SCHOOLS (Convention 2000, Amended/Reaffirmed 2006, Reaffirmed 2011)

Whereas, The members of the GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs are vitally interested in and intensely supportive of the education of K-12 students in California; and

Whereas, The school districts of California are having financial shortfalls directly related to the lack of complete funding for mandated programs such as special education, testing and busing; and

Whereas, The individual California school board's local control of spending has been critically limited by an excessive amount of funds being designated for specific budget categories by the governor and legislators; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS LEGISLATION THAT PROVIDES COMPLETE FUNDING FOR MANDATED PROGRAMS AND GIVES MORE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD CONTROL OVER BUDGETING OF EDUCATION FUNDS BY MAKING THOSE FUNDS DISCRETIONARY.

012-108

ENGLISH ADOPTED AS OFFICIAL LANGUAGE (Convention 2002, Reviewed 2007, Amended 2012)

Whereas, The GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs has gone on record in support of English as the official language of the United States; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE ADOPTION OF ENGLISH AS THE OFFICIAL UNITED STATES LANGUAGE.

012-109

CULTURAL HERITAGE EDUCATION (Convention 2003, Amended/Reaffirmed 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, The GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs believes that an awareness of our cultural heritage is vital; and

Whereas, Cultural heritage includes folklore; individual histories; landmarks; archaeological sites, objects, structures, districts, and artifacts; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT CULTURAL HERITAGE PROGRAMS WITHIN THEIR LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS.

012-111

VIOLENCE AND YOUTH DATING (Convention 2010), (Amended 2015)

Whereas, Dating violence is controlling, abusive, and aggressive behavior in a romantic relationship. It occurs in both heterosexual and homosexual relationships and can include verbal, emotional, physical, or sexual abuse, or a combination of these. It is not gender specific; and

Whereas, Lack of dating experience allows youth to be more vulnerable to dating violence where they are less likely to recognize the abuse; and

Whereas, While dating, domestic and sexual violence primarily affects females regardless of their age, young women are especially vulnerable; and

Whereas, Eighty-one percent (81%) of parents surveyed either believe youth dating violence is not an issue or admit they do not know if it is an issue and a majority of parents (54%) admit they have not spoken to their child about dating violence; and

Whereas, Except for parents, teachers probably have more contact with young people than any other adult; and

Whereas, Education is the best mechanism to stop youth dating violence and is crucial to creating a culture of intolerance for teen dating abuse; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE CLUBS AND MEMBERS OF THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORT, WITH APPROPRIATE LOCAL ACTIVITIES, NATIONAL TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH (FEBRUARY); and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE CLUBS AND MEMBERS OF THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS IN PARTICULAR EMPHASIZE EDUCATION FOR BOTH YOUTH AND THEIR PARENTS, IN THEIR LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS TOWARD PREVENTING YOUTH DATING VIOLENCE; and further

RESOLVED, THAT GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS REQUESTS THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE ENACT LEGISLATION INCORPORATING POSITIVE DATING EDUCATION INTO THE MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM; and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE INSTRUCTIONAL QUALITY COMMISSION BE URGED TO INCLUDE A DISTINCT CATEGORY ON MENTAL HEALTH TO INCLUDE YOUTH DATING VIOLENCE.

HOME LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM

013-107

AIDS EDUCATION (Convention 1988, Reaffirmed 1993, Reviewed 1998, Amended 2003, Amended/Reaffirmed 2008, amended/reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas. According to the World Health Organization HIV is one of the world's leading infectious killers; and

Whereas It is projected by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services that unless progress is made an international AIDS epidemic will dwarf such earlier medical disasters as the bubonic plague, smallpox, and typhoid; and

Whereas, The United States Secretary of Health and Human Services has emphasized that education and information are important in the face of this killer plague, therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES THAT AIDS EDUCATION BE REQUIRED IN EVERY SCHOOL, AND THAT THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE CONTINUE TO PUBLISH STATISTICS AND PROJECTIONS ON AIDS AND BE ENCOURAGED TO TREAT THIS PLAGUE AS IT HAS HISTORICALLY HANDLED DANGEROUS DISEASES, and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES ITS MEMBER CLUBS TO BECOME ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN PROMOTING AIDS PROGRAMS IN THEIR LOCAL SCHOOLS.

013-112

BREAST CANCER (Convention 1993, Reviewed 1999, Amended 2004, Reviewed 2009, Reviewed 2014)

Whereas, While mammography screening plays a vital role in early diagnosis, it by no means displaces or in any way mitigates the vital need for continued research into the prevention and cure of breast cancer; and

Whereas, Increased federal and state commitments to breast cancer prevention and cure will save millions of women's lives and reduce the economic costs associated with the disease; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS STRONGLY URGES CONTINUED FUNDING FOR RESEARCH LEADING TO THE PREVENTION OF BREAST CANCER.

013-115

CHILD SUPPORT (Convention 1973, Reviewed 1993, Reaffirmed 1998, Amended 2003, Amended/Reaffirmed 2008, Reviewed 2013)

Whereas, The refusal of absent parents to help support their children creates an economic hardship on the families and is a major cause of welfare dependency in California; and

Whereas, All counties of the state have children in foster homes and families in the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC-FG) Program of welfare in growing numbers; and

Whereas, All laws, both federal and state, require a parent to support his or her minor before any other obligations are paid; most states have criminal penalties for failure to provide for minor children by the parents; and

Whereas, It has proven difficult to enforce these criminal penalties in most jurisdictions due to lack of personnel provided in District Attorney or other enforcement offices due to the reluctance of some judges to incarcerate parents; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES

SUPPORT OF ENFORCEMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT.

013-132

FAIR MEDICAL TREATMENT (Executive Board 1998, Amended/Affirmed 2003, Amended/Reaffirmed 2008, Amended 2013)

Whereas, People require a full range of health care services to meet their health care needs, including pre-natal, preventive, screening, diagnostic and comprehensive treatment; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES ITS

MEMBER CLUBS TO WORK WITH THEIR COMMUNITIES, THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO HELP ESTABLISH ADEQUATE, ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR ALL.

013-145

MEDIA CONTENT IN CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING & OTHER MEDIA (Convention 1994, Reaffirmed 1999,

Amended/Affirmed 2004, Amended 2009, 2014)

Whereas, Violence, crime and sex in the content of such media providers as TV, films, cartoons, comic books, graphic novels, video games, and the Internet are often depicted explicitly; and

Whereas, children watching television, according to a National Institute on Media & the Family study, sees violent acts in media that are as/or more violent than adult programming; and

Whereas, The Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB) provides guidance about video games & apps so that consumers, especially parents, can make informed choices they deem suitable for their family; and

Whereas, The most effective way to combat this dissemination of these media forms of violence, crimes, and sex is through diligent monitoring of what children watch or purchase; and

Whereas, Withholding patronage, and letter writing are effective tools, as well as use of available electronic parental controls; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT MEMBERS OF THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS BE ENCOURAGED TO WRITE LETTERS TO THE RELEVANT

SPONSORS OF PRODUCTS NOTIFYING THEM OF THEIR INTENT TO WITHHOLD PATRONAGE.; and further

RESOLVED, THAT MEMBERS ENCOURAGE THE EDUCATION AND USE OF AVAILABLE PARENTAL CONTROLS.

013-158

HOMELESS FAMILIES AND THEIR PLIGHT (Convention 1992, Amended 1997, Amended/Affirmed 2001, Amended/Reaffirmed 2006, Amended 2011, Reaffirmed 2016)

Whereas, As there are no easy solutions to homeless families and their plight; and

Whereas, Homeless shelters provide only a temporary solution for the lack of adequate low-income housing; and

Whereas, The Federal Government's 1987 Stewart B. McKinney Act (The Homeless Assistance Act) has provided billions of dollars, supplemented by financial assistance from State, County, City and local and private agencies, which has been inadequate to solve the homeless plight throughout the Country, and

Whereas, Homeless numbers are increasing, therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS GO ON RECORD IN URGING CLUBS TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED BY FINANCIAL AND VOLUNTEER SERVICE IN THEIR LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO HOMELESS FAMILIES AND THEIR PLIGHT.

013-160

PUBLIC TELEVISION FUNDING

(Executive Board February 1995, Amend/Reaffirm 2000, Amended 2005, Amended 2010, Amended 2015)

Whereas, Public Television is available free of charge to virtually every American household; and

Whereas, Public Television is a source of programming for the classroom, reaching students in K-12; and

Whereas, Public Television is a public/private sector partnership to use television as a positive force in society; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS ARE URGED TO CONTACT THEIR LEGISLATORS REGARDING CONTINUENCE OF STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING.

013-177

FEMALE DEGRADATION (Convention 1979, Reaffirmed 1988, 1993, 1999, Amended 2004, Amended 2009, Reviewed 2014)

Whereas, Women as sex objects continues to be a part of advertising; and

Whereas, Research indicates a link between pornography and advertising; and

Whereas, The use of the Internet has increased this problem; and

Whereas, Often advertising pictures women as “hot babes”, showing flesh and subservient to men; and

Whereas, A false perception of body images can affect emotional teenagers and can lead to eating disorders; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN’S CLUBS OPPOSES THE DEGRADATION OF WOMEN FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES.

013-185

HEAD START (Convention 2003, Reaffirmed 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, Head Start serves basic family needs including preventive health and dental care; balanced nutrition; socialization opportunities; safe and structured environment; parental guidance, counseling, and educational opportunities as well as preschool child education; and

Whereas, There is current discussion regarding transferring Head Start Services to the Department of Education; and

Whereas, The Head Start Administration has, with dedication, established a successful, viable, workable Comprehensive Development Program; and

Whereas, The cost of transferring Head Start services from the Health and Human Services Department to the Department of Education would add to the fiscal strain of our nation; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES THAT THE HEAD START AGENCIES REMAIN UNDER THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

013-186

MEDICAL MARIJUANA (Convention 2004, Reaffirmed 2009, Reaffirmed 2014)

Whereas, Marijuana eases the pain in the final stages of many serious diseases and illnesses; and

Whereas, Marijuana, for this use, should be considered a beneficial medication or drug; and

Whereas, Marijuana, for this use, allows the patient to enjoy a quality of life not provided by more

traditional medications; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS THE USE OF MARIJUANA FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES ONLY WHEN PRESCRIBED BY A REPUTABLE, LICENSED MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.

013-188

PRESCRIPTION DRUG LABELING REQUIREMENTS (Convention 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, Many prescribed and over-the-counter drugs already have a "best before" date stamped on their outer packaging and, in some cases, on the containers that actually contain the drug; and

Whereas, Many people, particularly seniors, have unexpired drugs in their medicine cabinets and do not know the intended use of the drugs because the purpose of the drugs is omitted from their labels; and

Whereas, Many patients are unaware of their right to request that the prescription labels should contain information about the drugs' purpose and accurate expiration dates; and

Whereas, A number of groups, including the Government Relations Department of the California Medical Association and the National Coordinating Council of Medication Error Reporting and Prevention, endorse this type of legislation; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS PROPOSE THAT ALL PRESCRIPTIONS BE REQUIRED TO CONTAIN A NOTICE OF THE CONDITION FOR WHICH THE DRUG IS BEING PRESCRIBED AND THE

EXPIRATION DATE, UNLESS THE PATIENT REQUESTS THIS INFORMATION BE OMITTED; and further

RESOLVED, THAT GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THE LEGISLATURE ENACT APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ADDRESS THE CONCERNS SET FORTH IN THIS RESOLUTION.

013-191

OVARIAN CANCER (Convention 2009, Reviewed 2014)

Whereas, Ovarian cancer is not easily detected; and

Whereas, Pap smears are important to a woman's health but are not a guarantee for the detection of ovarian cancer; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS STRONGLY URGES INCREASED FUNDING FOR RESEARCH LEADING TO THE DETECTION OF OVARIAN CANCER.

RESOLVED, THAT THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE SENT TO THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC), THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CENTER AND THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS.

013-192

ELDER ABUSE IN NURSING HOME CARE (Convention 2009, sent back to committee 2014)

Whereas, Sometime in their lives, 43% of all Americans over the age of 68 will reside in a nursing home, according to the U.S. General Accounting Office; and

Whereas, The U.S. Census Bureau projects that California's elderly population will nearly double within the next 20 years; and

Whereas, Investigatory agencies have found in nursing homes –

Failure to provide medical care for physical and mental health needs,

Failure to attend to hygiene concerns,

Failure to provide adequate staffing,

Failure to prevent malnutrition and dehydration,

Failure to prevent falsification of patient charts, and

Failure to check thoroughly backgrounds of employees; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE CLUBS OF THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS BE ENCOURAGED TO PROVIDE TO THEIR MEMBERS RESOURCE INFORMATION ON A PERIODIC BASIS DEALING WITH ELDER ABUSE IN NURSING HOME CARE.

013-193

BREAST HEALTH (Convention 2010, Reaffirmed 2016)

Whereas, Public education efforts are essential to promote initial breast self examination as well as encouraging continuing monthly exams; and

Whereas, The American Cancer Society (ACS) recommends young women (ages 20-40) should have their first clinical breast exam (CAS) at age 20. By age 40, all women should have had their first mammogram. Mammograms should continue throughout the remainder of a woman's life; and

Whereas, It should be noted that all women determined to be in the high-risk category should have their baseline mammogram no later than age 30; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT WOMEN SHOULD PERFORM BREAST SELF-EXAMS MONTHLY AND AFTER RECEIVING INSTRUCTION IN PROPER PROCEDURES; and further

RESOLVED, THAT WOMEN SHOULD COMMENCE CLINICAL BREAST EXAMS AT THE AGE OF 20; and further

RESOLVED, THAT WOMEN SHOULD HAVE A BASELINE MAMMOGRAM AT THE AGE OF 40. FOLLOW-UP MAMMOGRAMS SHOULD BE COMPLETED YEARLY; and further

RESOLVED, THAT WOMEN DETERMINED TO BE IN THE HIGH-RISK GROUP SHOULD HAVE A BASELINE MAMMOGRAM BY AGE 30 OR WHATEVER AGE IS RECOMMENDED BY HER HEALTH CARE PROVIDER.

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM

014-186

CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WARFARE WEAPONS (Convention 1989, Amended/Reaffirmed

1994, Reaffirmed 1999, Amended 2004, Reaffirmed 2009, Reaffirmed 2014)

Whereas, The Geneva Convention bans the use of chemical and biological warfare; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS ALL GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO ENFORCE THIS BAN WORLDWIDE

PUBLIC ISSUES COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM

015-206

AIRLINE PASSENGER SAFETY

(Convention 1968, Reviewed 1993, Reaffirmed 1998, Amended 2003, Reviewed 2009, Reviewed 2010, Amended 2015)

Whereas, Hundreds of people have been killed or injured in low-impact, small plane accidents, when passenger seats come loose from their mountings, or when vulnerable fuel tanks erupted in flames, and

Whereas, The National Transportation Safety Board statistics for survivable accidents continue to show that heat, smoke and toxic gas kill many passengers; and

Whereas, There have been advances in passenger survival measures, not all have been required or adopted; and

Whereas, It is of benefit to all passengers to study the cabin so they may remain calm and helpful in emergency situations, therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS WILL ENCOURAGE AIRPLANE SAFETY PROGRAMS IN THEIR CLUBS AND COMMUNITIES; and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES THAT MEASURES ENSURING MAXIMUM PASSENGER SURVIVAL BE REQUIRED ON ALL NEW AND EXISTING COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT.

015-209

AMERICAN CITIZEN'S PROTECTION LAWS (Convention 1969, Reaffirmed 1989, Amended/Reaffirmed 1994, Reaffirmed 1999, Reviewed 2004, Amended 2009, Reviewed 2014)

Whereas, American citizens, especially women, are no longer safe on the streets or in their homes; and

Whereas, Law enforcement officers have stated that present law procedures give the criminal undue

advantage; and

Whereas, Law enforcement officers have found that persons with criminal records have served on juries; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS STRONGLY URGES THAT PRESENT LAWS BE MADE MORE ENFORCEABLE AND THE RIGHT OF THE VICTIM MORE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED WHEN PASSING NEW CRIMINAL LEGISLATION, AND EFFORTS BE MADE TO OVERCOME STATUTORY AND JUDICIAL INTERPRETATIONS THAT PERMIT WRONGDOERS TO ESCAPE PUNISHMENT WHEN MERITED; and further

RESOLVED, THAT NO PERSON WITH A FELONY CRIMINAL RECORD OR CRIMINAL RECORD OF THE NATURE OF THE CASE BEING TRIED, BE ALLOWED TO SERVE ON A JURY.

015-214

APPOINT WOMEN (Convention 1954, Reaffirmed 1974, 1990, 1997, 2001, Reaffirmed, 2006, Amended 2011, Amended/Reaffirmed 2016)

Whereas, Women constitute more than half the United States adult population; and

Whereas, A total of 32 women have held cabinet-level appointments in the history of our nation; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGE ALL BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE THE PERCENTAGE OF QUALIFIED WOMEN APPOINTED TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS, DEPARTMENTS AND THE JUDICIARY.

015-228

CALIFORNIA LOTTERY ACCOUNTABILITY (Convention 1988, Reaffirmed 1993, Reviewed 1998, Amended 2004, Amended 2009, Reaffirmed 2014)

Whereas, The general public is led to believe that players and public education are receiving huge financial gains from the California Lottery; and

Whereas, As promoted before acceptance by the voters, the lottery was to be a bonanza for public

education; it is not; and

Whereas, Lottery revenues account for only a small percentage of California expenditures on public education and were not intended to replace general funds; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES

LAWMAKERS TO INSIST THAT ADVERTISING OF AND LOTTERY BENEFITS

COMPLY WITH THE ORIGINAL INTENT AS VOTED.

015-229

CHILD ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT PREVENTION (Convention 1978, Reaffirmed 1988, 1993, Amended/Reaffirmed 1998, Amended 2003, Amended 2007, Amended 2012)

Whereas, Child abuse includes physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological abuse, abusive head trauma (Shaken Baby Syndrome); mental/emotional abandonment; and general, medical and educational neglect; and

Whereas, Studies show that the abused/neglected child could become a perpetrator on children and/or spouse and that most themselves were abused/neglected children; and

Whereas, This cycle of abuse/neglect must end; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND LEGISLATORS OF CALIFORNIA TO INITIATE AND STRENGTHEN CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT PREVENTION, REPORTING, COUNSELING AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS; and further

RESOLVED, THAT PROGRAMS SHOULD:

- 1) PROVIDE PROTECTIVE SERVICES ON A 24-HOUR BASIS;
- 2) COUNSEL BOTH VICTIM AND ABUSER;
- 3) CREATE PUBLIC AWARENESS IN SCHOOLS AND IN COMMUNITIES BY EDUCATION ON HOW TO IDENTIFY AND PREVENT THE PROBLEM;
- 4) ENCOURAGE COMPLETE REPORTING AND ACCURATE DATA COLLECTION;
- 5) PROVIDE FOR PROMPT, SENSITIVE ATTENTION BY POLICE, MEDICAL SERVICES, COURTS, AND SOCIAL SERVICES.

015-251

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (Convention 1969, Reaffirmed 1976, 1987, 1993, Historic 1998, Re-activated and Amended 2012)

Whereas, The General Federation of Women's Clubs has an ongoing interest in as well as an existing resolution supporting continuing action in this area; and

Whereas, The required number of states has not yet ratified the existing proposed Equal Rights Amendment; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES THAT EFFORTS CONTINUE BY BOTH GFWC AND CONGRESS TO PASS AN EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT THAT WOULD READ IN PART "EQUALITY OF RIGHTS SHALL NOT BE DENIED OR ABRIDGED BY THE UNITED STATES OR BY ANY STATE, ON ACCOUNT OF GENDER."

015-263

FIREARM POSSESSION (Convention 1997, Reaffirmed 2001, Reaffirmed 2006, Amended 2011)

Whereas, Legislation exists prohibiting anyone convicted of felony domestic violence from owning a gun; and

Whereas, All members of society should be required to abide by the law, including any law enforcement officer who has been convicted; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS GO ON RECORD

OPPOSING ATTEMPTS TO EXEMPT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FROM THIS LAW; and further

RESOLVED, THAT MEMBERS BE ENCOURAGED TO CONTACT THEIR U.S. AND STATE

REPRESENTATIVES TO EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO ANY EXEMPTIONS FROM THIS LAW.

015-268

MARIJUANA LAWS (Convention 1977, Reaffirmed 1982, 1987, Reviewed 1993, 1998, Amended 2004, Reaffirmed 2009, Reviewed 2014)

Whereas, Laws exist banning the use of marijuana for recreational purposes; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS IS ON RECORD AS OPPOSING DECRIMINALIZATION OF MARIJUANA FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES; and further

RESOLVED, THAT CLUB WOMEN THROUGHOUT THE STATE URGE THEIR LEGISLATORS TO OPPOSE ANY SUCH LEGISLATION.

015-270

GOVERNMENT WASTE AND INEFFICIENCY (Convention 1988, Reaffirmed 1993, Reviewed 1998, Amended 2004, Reviewed 2009, Reaffirmed 2014)

Whereas, Numerous reports indicate that there is waste and inefficiency in California government; and

Whereas, The government of California annually spends in gross excess of the accumulated revenues; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE TO IMPLEMENT REFORMS IN STATE GOVERNMENT WASTE AND EXCESS SPENDING LEADING TO FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY.

015-275

IMMIGRATION REFORM (Convention 1990, Amended 1995, Amended/Reaffirmed 2003, Reaffirmed 2008, amended/reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, The GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs believes that immigration reform legislation is needed to address the social and economic problems created by the increasing number of undocumented immigrants who come into this country; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS STRONGLY SUPPORTS REFORM AND STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING IMMIGRATION LAWS TO BRING CONTROL TO THE NATION'S BORDERS, AND APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES (USCIS) TO CARRY OUT ITS MISSION.

015-284

JURY REFORMS (Convention 1978, Reaffirmed 1988, Reviewed 1993, Reaffirmed 1998, Reaffirmed 2003, Amended/Reaffirmed 2008, amended/reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, Trial by jury is increasingly perceived as an excessive burden to jurors; and

Whereas, Financial compensation by employer or the courts is not sufficient to replace lost income,

thereby creating hardship for jurors, often eliminating their participation; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES THE CALIFORNIA JUDICIAL SYSTEM CONTINUE WORKING TOWARD MITIGATING LOSS OF FINANCIAL COMPENSATION FOR JURORS.

015-285

JURY TRIAL REFORM (Convention 1996, Amend/Reaffirm 2001, Reaffirmed 2006, Reaffirmed 2011)

Whereas, A significant number of criminal trials annually prosecuted in California result in hung juries; and

Whereas, The United States Supreme Court has expressly approved the constitutionality of non-unanimous jury verdicts; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS

NON-UNANIMOUS JURY VERDICTS FOR CRIMINAL TRIALS.

015-294

COURT APPEAL REFORM (Convention 1990, Reviewed 1995, Reaffirmed 2000, Amended 2005, Amended 2010, Reaffirmed 2015)

Whereas, In some instances, the victim of crimes and/or their families must live through trauma after trauma as appeals continue, sometimes for many years; and

Whereas, The cost to the public can become prohibitive; therefore

Whereas, The delay and overload in the courts would be reduced and, to many accused, their constitutional right to a speedy trial would be protected; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES

THE LEGISLATORS, WORKING WITH THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM, TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION THAT REFORMS THE APPEALS PROCESS.

015-299

MARIJUANA CULTIVATION (Convention 1983, Reaffirmed 1988, Reviewed 1998, Amended 2003, Amended 2009, Amended 2014)

Whereas, California is still the leading producer of domestic marijuana in the United States; and

Whereas, Much of this cultivation of marijuana is in National Forests which are administered by the National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management; and

Whereas, The cost of importing marijuana is a major factor in the increase of domestic production; and

Whereas, Public lands are used by both U.S, citizens and foreign drug cartels because they are remote, making arrests difficult; and

Whereas, It is increasingly difficult to regulate the encroachment of these marijuana growers on public lands; and

Whereas, Marijuana, does severe damage to wilderness areas in that the growers are cutting trees and the fertilizers the growers use for the marijuana plants are leaching into underground water which pollutes water downstream for domestic water supplies; and

Whereas, Trash and garbage, related to marijuana cultivation, left affects the environment and human health; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS THE FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES EFFORTS TO CARRY OUT A COOPERATIVE PROGRAM TO ERADICATE AND PREVENT THE CULTIVATION OF MARIJUANA ON PUBLIC LANDS; and further

RESOLVED, THAT EACH MEMBER IS ENCOURAGED TO WORK FOR INCREASED FUNDING TO SUPPORT OUR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AND BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING LAWS.

015-309

DRUG DEALERS (Convention 1959, Reaffirmed 1974, 1988, Reviewed 1993, 1998, Amended 2004, Reaffirmed 2009, Reviewed 2014)

Whereas, Illegal drug trafficking continues to be a major problem in our society; and

Whereas, Drug Dealers can be considered predators; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS PROSECUTING DRUG DEALERS TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW.

015-317

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATEHOOD (Convention 1991, Reviewed 1996, Amended/Reaffirmed 2001, Reaffirmed 2006, Amended 2011, Reaffirmed 2016)

Whereas, The founding fathers of the nation set up the District of Columbia to be an independent center for the seat of our federal government; and

Whereas, The U.S. Constitution does not grant the District of Columbia statehood or voting representation in Congress; and

Whereas, The only time that this issue has come before the voting public was in 1978 when Congress proposed the District of Columbia Voting Rights Amendment to the Constitution. It was not ratified; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS, BELIEVING IN THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF AN IMPARTIAL SEAT FOR OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, OPPOSES ANY EFFORT TO CHANGE THE STATUS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO THAT OF THE 51ST STATE.

015-318

LARGE COMBINATION VEHICLES (LCVs) (Executive Board, February 1974, Convention 1974,

Historic, Reactivated, Executive Board, October 1994 with reference to the NAFTA Treaty, Amended/Reaffirmed 1999, Amended/Affirmed 2004, Reaffirmed 2009, Reaffirmed 2014)

Whereas, Safety on the highways and streets of our State is of prime importance to the welfare of all California residents; and

Whereas, The added length and increased weight of such vehicles as triple-trailer rigs/LCVs sharply reduces the life span of existing roads and streets. LCVs create a definite hazard for passing vehicles. The braking ability of these size vehicles is dangerous to neighboring vehicles; and

Whereas, Legislation currently existing that prevents or restricts triple-trailer rigs/LCVs from using

California roads is regularly under attack with the intention of eliminating these length and weight limits; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS IS ON RECORD AS OPPOSING ANY CHANGE IN EXISTING LAWS GOVERNING WIDTH, LENGTH AND WEIGHT OF VEHICLES TRAVELING ON ALL THE CALIFORNIA ROADS AND HIGHWAYS.

015-325

PENALTIES FOR FREEWAY SHOOTINGS (Convention 1988, Reviewed 1993, Amended/Reaffirmed 1998, Reaffirmed 2003, Amended/Reaffirmed 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, Safety is a major concern of all freeway users and maintainers; and

Whereas, Numerous freeway shootings have occurred resulting in fatalities and physical and traumatic injuries; therefore be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES THAT

- 1) THE SENTENCE FOR SHOOTING AND KILLING ANYONE ON A PUBLIC HIGHWAY OR FREEWAY BE THE DEATH PENALTY, and
- 2) THE SENTENCE FOR SHOOTING AT A CAR OR PERSON ON A PUBLIC HIGHWAY OR FREEWAY BE TWENTY YEARS IMPRISONMENT, WITHOUT PAROLE, and
- 3) THE LAWS CURRENTLY ON THE BOOKS BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

015-345

RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE AND ABUSED PERSONS (Convention 1996, Amended/Reaffirmed 2001, Amended/Reaffirmed 2006, Amended 2011)

Whereas, Physical, emotional, verbal, psychological, and sexual abuse continues to increase within our society cutting across age, ethnic, racial, educational and socio-economic lines and can cause emotional and behavioral disturbance, physical injury and death to children and adults; and

Whereas, Children who grow up in violent homes are more likely to become batterers or victims themselves than are children from non-violent homes; and

Whereas, The majority of domestic elder abuse perpetrators are family members of the victim, typically serving in a care-giving role, and

Whereas, It is estimated that the incidents of elder abuse are grossly underestimated. For instance, the U.S. Administration on Aging Elder Abuse suggests that only 1 in 14 cases of elder abuse is ever reported; and

Whereas, There continues to be a need for emergency shelters and counseling services for all victims of abuse; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORT LEGISLATION AND ACTIVELY PROMOTE PROGRAMS WHICH WILL:

1. IDENTIFY AT-RISK FAMILIES AND SUSPECTED CASES OF CHILD, SPOUSAL OR ELDER ABUSE
2. PROVIDE EMERGENCY AID AND SHELTER FOR THOSE WHO ARE FORCED TO LEAVE VIOLENT FAMILY SETTINGS
3. PROVIDE TREATMENT FOR VICTIMS AND REHABILITATION FOR PERPETRATORS OF ABUSE
4. PROVIDE PUBLIC AWARENESS EDUCATION PROGRAMS CONCERNING PREVENTION OF ABUSE; and further

RESOLVED, THAT MEMBER CLUBS BE URGED TO ENLIST THE HELP OF HOSPITALS,

DOCTORS, LAWYERS, POLICE, SCHOOL PERSONNEL, CHURCHES, COUNSELING SERVICES, SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES AND CLINICS, SHELTERS AND THEIR PROGRAMS IN A UNITED EFFORT FOR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF ABUSED PERSONS.

015-346

RENEWAL OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Convention 1978, Reaffirmed 1987, 1993, 1998

Amended 2003, Reaffirmed 2008, reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, The GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs deplors the diminution of the renewal of the Pledge of Allegiance in the classroom; and

Whereas, Patriotism and love of country must be instilled in the youth of America; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS STRESSES THE DAILY RENEWAL OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE; and further

RESOLVED, THAT MEMBER CLUBS ENCOURAGE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS TO DO THE SAME.

015-361

SEXUAL ASSAULT BY MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL (Convention 1989, Reaffirmed 1994, Reviewed 1999, Amended 2004, Reviewed 2009, no changes 2014)

Whereas, The problem of sexual assault by mental health professionals upon their patients exists; and

Whereas, California has no statute making it a criminal violation for a mental health professional to engage in sexual intercourse with a consenting patient; and

Whereas, The public at the present time has no safeguard when seeking professional help; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS DEMANDS

THAT THE PUBLIC BE PROTECTED FROM SUCH MISCONDUCT BY THE

LEGISLATURE ENACTING A LAW MAKING IT A PUNISHABLE CRIMINAL ACT FOR A MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL TO ENGAGE IN SEXUAL ACTS WITH PATIENTS.

015-362

ABUSIVE HEAD TRAUMA (SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME) (Convention 1997, Reaffirmed 2001, Accomplished 2006, Re-activated and Amended 2012)

Whereas, Abusive Head Trauma (Shaken Baby Syndrome) occurs when a person shakes an infant violently, tosses infants in play, or acts without awareness; and

Whereas, Many parents and other caregivers are unaware that shaking babies is dangerous;

Whereas, Infants' neck muscles are weak; shaking an infant can cause head trauma damage to the brain; and

Whereas, In a 2009 article, the National Crime Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome estimated that 1200-1400 U.S. children are injured or killed by shaking each year. The number may be higher as many cases are not detected; therefore and

RESOLVED, THAT THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGE ITS MEMBER CLUBS TO WORK ON A STATEWIDE PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE ABUSIVE HEAD TRAUMA CONSEQUENCES OF SHAKING A BABY; and further

RESOLVED, THAT COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION BE MADE AVAILABLE TO:

1. THE CFWC HOME LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICES CHAIRMAN
2. THE CFWC PUBLIC ISSUES COMMUNITY SERVICES CHAIRMAN
3. THE CFWC ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN CHAIRMAN
4. ALL DISTRICT CLUBS; and further

RESOLVED, THAT GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES ALL MEMBERS TO DISTRIBUTE COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION TO PARENTING GROUPS, GROUPS AND ENTITIES CONDUCTING BABY SITTING CLASSES, DAY CARE CENTERS AND HEALTH PROVIDERS.

015-376

TEENAGE DRUNK DRIVING (Convention 1984, Reaffirmed 1989, 1994, 1999, Reviewed 2004, Amended 2009, 2014)

Whereas, Youth and their futures are in jeopardy because of the misuse of alcohol; and

Whereas, There is an increase in fatalities due to teenage drunk driving; and

Whereas, Of those teenage alcohol related deaths, a growing number of teenage drivers were found to have a blood alcohol level of 0.08 [legally drunk]; and

Whereas, Numerous solutions to the problem of teenage drunk driving have been proposed; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS VIABLE PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION AND PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD TEENAGE DRUNK DRIVING.

015-384

UNITED STATES FLAG AND NATIONAL ANTHEM ETIQUETTE (Convention 1990, Amended/

Reaffirmed 1995, Reaffirmed 2000, Reaffirmed 2006, Amended 2011)

Whereas, The Supreme Court of the United States by a 5 to 4 vote, has decided to allow the indiscriminate burning of the flag of the United States of America under the guise of First Amendment rights of free expression; and

Whereas, The decline in values of many Americans has led to a decline in patriotism and appreciation for traditional American beliefs as evidenced by the renditions of the National Anthem and lack of respect during the renewal of the Pledge of Allegiance; and

Whereas, These symbols are recognized worldwide as representative of the United States of America and are loved, respected and revered by the American people who have defended them in war and peace; and

Whereas, The United States Flag Code, Title 36, Chapter 10, United States Code paragraphs 170-178 describes proper etiquette; and

Whereas, The members of the California Federation of Women's Clubs are distressed to see this decline in respect for our country's symbols; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES:

1. THAT THE CALIFORNIA SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION DIRECT STAFF TO CREATE A TEACHING SYLLABUS TO BE INSTITUTED ANNUALLY IN EVERY PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA INSTRUCTING ALL STUDENTS IN PROPER NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FLAG ETIQUETTE.

2. THAT EVERY MEMBER CLUB DELIVER A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THEIR LOCAL SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS, COLLEGE PRESIDENTS AND PROFESSIONAL ATHLETIC TEAM OWNERS AND PRESIDENTS STATING THE OPPOSITION OF THE MEMBERS TO THE ABUSES OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND UNITED STATES FLAG, URGING THAT PROPER ETIQUETTE BE OBSERVED.

015-385

U.S. ENGLISH (Convention 1984, Reaffirmed 1993, Reviewed 1998, Reaffirmed 2004, Reaffirmed 2009, Reaffirmed 2014)

SUPPORT THE AIMS OF U.S. TO ESTABLISH ENGLISH AS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE UNITED STATES.

015-392

VICTIM SERVICES FUND (Convention 1989, Reviewed 1994, 1999, Amended 2004, Reviewed 2009, Reviewed 2014)

Whereas, The California Legislature had the foresight to establish a Victim Services Fund with moneys funded by a penalty assessment on fines; and

Whereas, These fines are not sufficient to provide all stipulated victim-related services; and

Whereas, There is a continued escalation of victim demands for services; and

Whereas, These fines are mandated exclusively for the use of designated services to victims; and

Whereas, This fund is constantly used to fund other state needs; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES THE LEGISLATURE TO STOP DIVERTING SUCH FUNDS FOR USES OTHER THAN THOSE DIRECT SERVICES NOW PROVIDED BY STATUTE.

015-402

METHAMPHETAMINES (Convention 2002, Amended 2007, Amended 2012)

Whereas, More methamphetamines, powerful stimulants which affect the central nervous system, are produced in California than anywhere in the U.S.A.; and

Whereas, The general population is unaware of the potential threat to their health and safety posed by clandestine laboratories, such as motel rooms or the trunks of cars where the drug can be “cooked” by criminals who are often armed and dangerous; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN’S CLUBS URGES ITS MEMBER CLUBS TO WORK TO RAISE MEMBER AND COMMUNITY AWARENESS, ESPECIALLY THE YOUNG AND MIDDLE-AGED PEOPLE, ABOUT THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF USING METHAMPHETAMINES ON THEIR BODIES, AND THE SIGNS OF POSSIBLE METHAMPHETAMINE LABORATORIES:

1. STRONG OR UNUSUAL CHEMICAL ODORS,
2. LABORATORY EQUIPMENT (GLASS TUBES, BEAKERS, BUNSEN BURNERS, FUNNELS),
3. CAMP STOVES, HEAT PLATES, PROPANE TANKS, OR COFFEE FILTERS WITH A POWDERY SUBSTANCE;

4. EVIDENCE OF LARGE QUANTITIES OF COLD MEDICATION OR NONPRESCRIPTION WEIGHT-LOSS PRODUCTS; and further

RESOLVED, THAT CLUBS EDUCATE THEIR MEMBERS AND COMMUNITIES OF STEPS TO

PROTECT THEMSELVES AND OTHERS IF A METHAMPHETAMINE

LABORATORY IS SUSPECTED:

1. LEAVE THE AREA AT ONCE,
2. REFRAIN FROM INTERFERENCE,
3. CONTACT LAW ENFORCEMENT IMMEDIATELY,
4. NOTIFY OTHERS WHO MAY BE IN DANGER.

015-403

STEM CELL RESEARCH (Convention 2002, Amended 2007, Amended 2012)

Whereas, Human stem cell research is demonstrating results that will assist victims of diabetes, leukemia, sickle cell anemia, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, Huntington's, and other diseases or conditions including nerve damage; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORT THE CONTINUATION AND EXPANSION OF ADULT STEM CELL RESEARCH BY UTILIZING ONLY BYPRODUCTS (i.e., UMBILICAL CORD AND PLACENTA) OF LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS THAT HAVE BEEN RELEASED AS A RESULT OF INFORMED PARENTAL OR LEGAL GUARDIAN'S CONSENT; and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SEEKS TO EDUCATE ITS MEMBERS AT STATE, DISTRICT, AND CLUB LEVELS ABOUT HUMAN STEM CELL RESEARCH.

015-404

SAFELY SURRENDERED BABIES (Convention 2003, Reaffirmed 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, In recognition of the increasing number of abandoned newborn babies whose abandonment resulted in death or serious harm, the State of California enacted the Safely Surrendered Baby Law on January 2, 2001; and

Whereas, This law saves the lives of newborn babies who might otherwise die or be seriously harmed; and

Whereas, Designated sites, known as safe havens, are allowed to accept a newborn baby being surrendered by a parent or other individual with no shame, no blame, no names; and

Whereas, The State of California is conducting a public information campaign to educate designated sites, the general public, pregnant women and responsible men about the existence and provisions of the law; and

Whereas, Assistance from California service organizations such as the GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs is critical to a successful information campaign; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES ITS MEMBER CLUBS TO SUPPORT AND ASSIST THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN ITS INFORMATION CAMPAIGN TO ASSURE THAT ABANDONED NEWBORN BABIES BE DELIVERED TO A SAFE HAVEN.

015-405

CALIFORNIA BUDGETING PROCESS (Convention 2004, Reaffirmed 2009, Reaffirmed 2014)

Whereas, Delays in passage of the state's annual budget contribute to inefficiencies and inequities in the system; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS EXPECTS THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE TO PASS THE STATE'S ANNUAL BALANCED BUDGET ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTIONALLY MANDATED DATE; and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS THAT CALIFORNIA'S ANNUAL BALANCED BUDGET MUST BE PASSED BY A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY.

015-406

WAR ON TERRORISM (Convention 2006, Reaffirmed 2011, Amended/Reaffirmed 2016)

Whereas, Terrorist attacks against the United States, its government and its citizens have been so heinous, particularly the September 11, 2001 destruction of New York City's World Trade

Center, the attempted destruction of the Pentagon, and the complete destruction of United Flight #93, that the United States has declared war on terrorism; and

Whereas, The government of the United States has created laws such as the USA Freedom Act and new government posts, such as those in Homeland Security; and

Whereas, The Constitution of the United States established certain civil liberties as a foundation for our individual freedoms; and

Whereas, There is conflict among our citizens and among government officials regarding the proper balance between security for our citizens and their civil liberties; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES OUR LEGISLATORS AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT TO MAKE THE PROTECTION OF U.S. CITIZENS FROM ACTS OF TERRORISM A PRIORITY WHILE ALSO MAKING THE PROTECTION OF OUR CIVIL LIBERTIES WHICH CONTAIN OUR INDIVIDUAL FREEDOMS A PRIORITY FOR OUR FUTURE AS A NATION.

015-407

RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF VETERANS (Convention 2006, Amended 2011)

Whereas, Over 11% of our population over the age of 18 are civilian veterans; and

Whereas, In the global war on terrorism, non-mortal wounding as of March 10, 2010 total 36,906; and

Whereas, As of the end of fiscal year 2010, 437,310 veterans are receiving compensation for Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome; and

Whereas, Over 600,000 homeless people are on the streets of America on any given night and 10% to 15% are veterans; and

Whereas, As of 2009, it was estimated that 26, 618 veterans were homeless in California, and

Whereas, The impact on family and community members is not a part of the statistical data that results from returning veterans who are physically, mentally or psychologically impaired, but it is real; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS REQUESTS THAT THEIR MEMBERS CONTACT THEIR LOCAL VETERANS ADMINISTRATION AND THEIR LEGISLATORS AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT TO URGE PROGRAMS AND LAWS THAT WILL MEET THE CONTINUING NEEDS OF ALL UNITED STATES VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

015-408

SAFELY SURRENDERED BABIES: 72-HOURS LIMIT (Convention 2006, Amended 2011, Reaffirmed 2016)

Whereas, A mother considering surrendering her baby can be presumed to have had several months to consider her choice; and

Whereas, There may be serious health issues in the initial 72 hours of an infant's life; and

Whereas, There is the possibility in the infant's initial environment for causing physical and emotional damage, the sooner the surrender the better; therefore

Whereas, Surrender for an older child presents emotional problems; and

RESOLVED, THAT GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS STRONGLY URGES THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT THE 72-HOUR LIMIT FOR SURRENDERING INFANTS.

015-411

PROHIBITS THE USE OF HANDHELD CELL PHONES WHILE DRIVING (Convention 2008, amended 2013)

Whereas, Recent studies by the Insurance Information Institute show that crashes and near crashes have been caused by drivers inattention and lack of concentration because their use of handheld phones while driving; and

Whereas, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has signed a legislation that prohibits the use of handheld mobile phones while driving in the State; and

Whereas, The National Transportation Safety Board has recommended that all states prohibit inexperienced drivers from using cell phones while driving; and

Whereas, The Board also urges the National Highway Safety Education Association to develop drivers training curricula that emphasize the risks of distracted driving; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS HAS GONE ON RECORD IN SUPPORTING THE CELLULAR PHONE LAWS PROHIBITING THE USE OF HANDHELD PHONES WHILE DRIVING IN CALIFORNIA; and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES ITS MEMBER CLUBS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE DANGER OF DRIVING WHILE USING A HANDHELD PHONE.

015-412

“IN GOD WE TRUST” ON UNITED STATES COINS AND CURRENCY (Convention 2008; amended 2013)

Whereas, In 1861 Chief Justice Chase of the Supreme Court wrote the following letter to the director of the U.S. Mint: “No nation can be strong except in the strength of God, or safe except in His defense. The trust of our people in God should be declared on our national coins”; and

Whereas, Legislation mandated the inscription of “In God We Trust” and it has appeared on U.S. coins since 1894 and on paper currency since 1957; and

Whereas, In 1956 Congress and the Supreme Court voted in favor of declaring “In God We Trust” as the National Motto of the United States; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORT THE NATIONAL MOTTO “IN GOD WE TRUST” AND PROPOSE THAT IT SHOULD REMAIN ON THE FACE OF ALL UNITED STATES COINS AND PAPER CURRENCY; and further

RESOLVED, THAT COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION BE MADE AVAILABLE TO:

1. THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS.
2. ALL GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS DISTRICTS AND CLUBS.
3. THE UNITED STATES TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

015-414

CALIFORNIA ADMISSION DAY (Convention 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, California has fallen away from celebrating this important and historic day and we feel strongly that all Californians should be proud of this very important day of September 9, 1850; when California was admitted as the 31st state into the United States, and

Whereas, Admission Day should be a day of remembrance, programs and celebrations, and

Whereas, We are proud of Admission Day and we want to share this with everyone in the State of California; therefore

RESOLVED; THAT GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORT LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO REINSTATE ADMISSION DAY AS AN HONORARY CALENDAR DAY ANNUALLY ON SEPTEMBER 9TH., and further

RESOLVED, SINCE THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION INCLUDES ADMISSION DAY ON its CALENDAR THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES MEMBERS TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL SCHOOLS TO PLAN A SPECIAL ADMISSION DAY EVENT.

015-415

SUPER-SIZED TRUCKS (Feb. Board 2009, Convention 2010, Reaffirmed 2015)

Whereas, Existing infrastructure cannot support the effect of increasing weight limits of super-sized trucks. Current efforts are underway to increase the weight limit of trucks to 97,000 pounds; and

Whereas, The 2007 National Bridge Inventory by the Federal Highway Administration classified 6,977 bridges as having been rated structurally deficient or functionally obsolete; and

Whereas, Super-sized trucks, which would have an increase in length and weight, are being called "higher productivity vehicles" on the basis of the argument that they would result in fewer trucks on the road. It is also argued that there will be fewer emissions; and

Whereas, These arguments are countered by the fact that since 1982 when Congress raised the maximum allowable truck weight to its current 80,000 pounds, there has been an increase in the number of U.S. registered trucks and an increase in the number of miles traveled by these trucks; and

Whereas, Truck travel grows after an increase in truck size and weight because bigger trucks divert freight from other transportation modes; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS ANY EFFORT TO PREVENT THE INCREASE OF LENGTH AND WEIGHT OF TRUCKS ON CALIFORNIA HIGHWAYS; and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS STRONGLY SUPPORTS ANY EFFORTS TO PREVENT THE PASSAGE OF FEDERAL LAWS THAT WOULD SUPERCEDE CALIFORNIA LAWS ON THESE ISSUES.

015-416

Gun Control & Education (Convention 2013)

Whereas, One of the most alarming crises the nation faces today is the number of violent crimes involving firearms; and

Whereas, A waiting period and background check on purchase of firearms has reduced crime violence by providing impetuous gun buyers a cooling off period; and

Whereas, Schools are made safer by required school safety plans, funding to maintain school resource officers, nurses and counselors and training in mental health and violence prevention issues; and

Whereas, CFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs seeks to raise awareness and increase public safety through education in our schools and communities; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS EXISTING LEGISLATION REGULATING THE INDISCRIMINATE SALE AND POSSESSION OF WEAPONS INCLUDING:

- MANDATORY WAITING PERIODS AND GUN SAFETY EDUCATION PRIOR TO PURCHASE.
- IMPROVED LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR GUN DEALERS.
- REQUIREMENTS THAT PURCHASERS PRODUCE IDENTIFICATION AND BEAR THE COST OF A BACKGROUND CHECK.
- REQUIREMENTS FOR UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECKS AT GUN SHOWS.
- EXISTING RESTRICTIONS ON AMMUNITION SALES AND PURCHASES.
- INCREASED PENALTIES FOR THE SALE OF FIREARMS TO MINORS; and further

RESOLVED, THAT WE SUPPORT EXISTING CALIFORNIA LEGISLATION BANNING THE IMPORTATION, MODIFICATION, THE MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ASSAULT-TYPE WEAPONS; and further

RESOLVED, THAT WE SUPPORT EXISTING PENALTIES FOR ANYONE CONVICTED OF USING A FIREARM DURING THE COMMISSION OF A CRIME; and further

RESOLVED, THAT WE PROMOTE LEGISLATION ALLOWING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS FREE ACCESS TO BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES GUN TRACE INFORMATION; and further

RESOLVED, WE SUPPORT THE ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING GUN LAWS AND URGE MEMBER CLUBS TO TAKE ACTION AND PROMOTE INCREASED SCHOOL

SAFETY AND RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF EXISTING FIREARM REGULATIONS THROUGH EDUCATION.

015-417

California Human Trafficking (Convention 2013)

Whereas, California is the nation's largest center of domestic and international human trafficking activity which is an illegal, profitable enterprise that generates revenue from forced labor and/or sexual exploitation of its victims; and

Whereas, Organized criminal enterprises have discovered that the criminal penalties for trafficking in human beings for the purposes of labor and/or sexual exploitation in the United States are insignificant in comparison to the criminal penalties for the import and distribution of illegal drugs, which once consumed no longer exist and cannot be consumed or sold again, while human beings can be sold and resold repeatedly for the duration of their life; and

Whereas, Both documented and undocumented immigrants as well as United States citizens are at risk of becoming victims of human trafficking; and

Whereas, Most witnesses of human trafficking are unable to recognize victims engaged in common labor activity including legitimate businesses; and

Whereas, A police welfare check is a significant law enforcement function which allows for professional intervention and immediate protection by a law enforcement officer if an individual is in distress or in need of assistance because of a health condition, injury or some other situation – such as being victimized by human trafficking; and

Whereas, Electronic devices such as cellular phones and computer activity enables criminals to manipulate and control both adults and minors by tracking the activities and location of their victims; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACTIVITY WITHIN THE UNITED STATES TO ENABLE RECOGNITION OF SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACTIVITY; and further

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC TO TELEPHONE 911 IMMEDIATELY REGARDING ANYONE THEY SUSPECT MAY BE A VICTIM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN ORDER TO REQUEST A POLICE "WELFARE CHECK" FOR THE INDIVIDUAL.

015-419

PROHIBIT THE PRACTICE OF LANE SHARING. (Fall 2012), (Winter 2015), (Convention 2015)

Whereas, Current California Vehicle Code, does not address Lane Sharing (which includes lane splitting, filtering, white lining and stripe riding); and

Whereas, California is the only state that has no law or state vehicle code which explicitly prohibits Lane Sharing by motorcycles on roadways; and

Whereas, Lane Sharing places motorcycles into roadway spaces not designed for traffic such as painted lines, road seams and reflective material, and

Whereas, Lane Sharing places motorcycles in roadway spaces where movement is not expected, resulting in sometimes fatal automobile/motorcycle accidents; and

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGE THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATORS AND CALIFORNIA AUTHORITIES TO INITIATE AND PASS A LAW THAT PROHIBITS LANE SHARING BY MOTORCYCLES ON CALIFORNIA ROADWAYS.

015-481

SUPPORT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS (Winter Board 2015, Convention 2015)

Whereas, Demonstrators have marched through the streets of our American cities, in protest of police action resulting in the deaths of youths and adults in America; and

Whereas, Protesters chant slogans which could incite others to take violent action against law enforcement officers, causing injury and death, and

Whereas, Police officers across the country are receiving threats; and

Whereas, Law enforcement Officers carry out their duties to uphold the laws of the land, to prevent crime, to apprehend suspected criminals, to rescue those in danger and to keep the peace, while putting their lives on the line daily; therefore,

RESOLVED, THAT THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS GOES ON RECORD IN SUPPORT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN CARRYING OUT THEIR PRESCRIBED DUTIES; and further

RESOLVED, THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENTS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BE ENCOURAGED TO CREATE AND/OR ENHANCE PROGRAMS TO INTERACT WITH LOCAL YOUTH, PARENTS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS, THEREBY PROMOTING BETTER UNDERSTANDING, RESPECT AND TRUST AMONG ALL PARTIES; further

RESOLVED, THAT COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION BE SENT TO: THE UNITED STATES PRESIDENT, THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL and THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR

ADMINISTRATION

016-001

CHOCOLATE AND CONVENTIONS (Convention 2001, Amended/Reaffirmed 2003, Reaffirmed 2008, Reaffirmed 2013)

Whereas, Chocolate is an antidepressant, an analgesic, and a stimulant; and

Whereas, Studies by the American Cocoa Research Institute have shown that chocolate can be abundantly rich in potentially healthful antioxidants; and

Whereas, The Mayo Clinic notes the high level of antioxidants in chocolate as well as the fact that cocoa butter, the natural fat in chocolate, has a neutral effect on blood cholesterol levels; and

Whereas, The delegates to the conventions of the GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs should be happy, productive, and healthy; and

Whereas, The ingestion of sufficient chocolate with its proven mood-modulating benefits results in a group of happy campers; i.e., convention delegates; and

Whereas, The Greek word for cocoa, theobroma, means "food of the gods"; and

Whereas, Chocolate is legal, inexpensive, and available over the counter; therefore

RESOLVED, THAT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS BE STRONGLY URGED TO ENSURE THAT A MINIMUM OF ONE (1) CHOCOLATE DESSERT BE PART OF THE MENUS AT EACH ANNUAL CONVENTION AND BOARD MEETINGS; and further

RESOLVED, THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE SENT TO THE PRESIDENT, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, AND CONVENTION CHAIRMEN OF THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS FOR PERPETUAL ENACTMENT.

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