

PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE, NEGLECT AND MALTREATMENT

- WHEREAS, Each year, more than three million children are reported as abused or neglected in the United States and three children die each day from abuse and neglect; and
- WHEREAS, In Missouri, one of every four children experiences abuse of some kind, according to estimates by The Child Abuse Prevention Association of Missouri, and it is known that 56,953 total incidents, involving 86,735 children, were reported in 2003 to the Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline from the Missouri Division Department of Social Services; and
- WHEREAS, There are many types of abuse or maltreatment, with neglect being the most common form of child maltreatment, 44.9% of victims suffering neglect; 24.5%, physical abuse; 23.9%, sexual abuse; and 5.5%, emotional maltreatment, 3.0% medical neglect and 3.0% educational neglect; and
- WHEREAS, An estimated 40% of child sexual abusers are under the age of 18; and
- WHEREAS, Parents who are isolated, and lack social supports and skills are at particular risk for abuse, neglect, and maltreatment; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, its units and councils, urge the Legislature to increase funding for programs and services aimed at the prevention of child abuse, neglect and maltreatment; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, its units and councils, urge the Legislature to direct state agencies to increase and expand partnerships with community organizations, including school districts, for the purpose of the prevention of child abuse, neglect and maltreatment.