

## **CHILD ABUSE**

- WHEREAS, The phenomena of nationwide child abuse annually results in untold tragedy and suffering for unknown numbers of children; and
- WHEREAS, The causes of child abuse are many and complex, crossing social, economic, and educational lines; and
- WHEREAS, A contributing cause may be lack of parental knowledge of children's physical, emotional, and social needs; therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That PTA and PTSAs develop and promote parent and family life programs that address themselves to the problem of child abuse, its causes and prevention, and that they encourage and support family life education curricula in the schools so that all future parents may be better able to cope with the problems of parenthood and family responsibilities; and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That all local units and councils be urged to present programs on child abuse; and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers urge the State Legislature to provide funds to local public agencies so that the following service could be instituted for child abusers:
1. Organize a 24 hour hotline to deal with crisis;
  2. Parents Anonymous Volunteers-facilities and leadership to provide for group sessions
  3. Abused Child's Attorney-having a specialist in family laws assigned to the assisting agency for the protection and representation of the child;
  4. Lay Therapy-volunteers to work on a person-to-person basis with abusive parents.

Adopted 1974  
Reaffirmed 1982  
Retired 2005