



Radicalization of Youth Resolution

Whereas, Youth are actively being targeted for recruitment by extremist groups and research conducted has documented youth, due to their normal cognitive and physical development, are particularly vulnerable to the influence of violent extremism; and

Whereas, Extremist organizations are utilizing online technologies of which youth are often tech-savvy in using and spend large quantities engaging in such as social media to contact and communicate, online gaming to communicate and train, online forums to spread and stream propaganda, and detailed online magazines serving as how-to-guides and decimating information; and

Whereas, Schools and communities are at increased risk of being a target of radicalized extremist violent actions but are also the most effective at instituting preventative measures and legislation designed to identify and diminish the occurrences of radicalization among youth; and

Whereas, Family engagement, through positive messaging and mentoring, open dialogue, monitoring of online interaction, and awareness of radicalization or mobilization of activities or behaviors has been identified to reduce the likelihood of youth becoming radicalized or engaging in radicalized behavior; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers (Missouri PTA), its units and councils support legislation requiring school districts to establish threat assessment teams; and

Resolved, That the Missouri Congress of Parent and Teachers (Missouri PTA), its units and councils collaborate with community partners, mental health practitioners, social services, school districts, and state and local law enforcement to promote and enhance awareness of resources and effective technics to identify and prevent radicalization of youth; and

Resolved, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers (Missouri PTA), its units and councils strongly encourage the empowering of school boards, administrators, teachers, and families to initiate disengagement activities, engage in positive messaging and mentoring, and educate bystanders on the radicalization of youth.