

ANABOLIC STEROIDS

- WHEREAS, Anabolic steroids are potentially addictive drugs capable of affecting every cell in the human body; and
- WHEREAS, The use of anabolic steroids may shorten life by producing potential long-term health consequences such as heart diseases, liver trouble, gastrointestinal dysfunctions, urinary tract abnormalities, and central nervous system problems; and
- WHEREAS, Anabolic steroids may cause sexual dysfunctions such as, impotence, sterility, and irreversible masculinization of females including beards and baldness, etc.; and
- WHEREAS, Anabolic steroids have been known to cause negative psychological affects, i.e., mood swings, irritability, combative behavior, withdrawal, depression, suicidal tendencies, psychosis, neurosis, deviant sexual and criminal behavior, etc.; and
- WHEREAS, Ninety percent of high school age youth listed sports as their primary hobby; and
- WHEREAS, Studies show that sports figures, coaches and team captains are very influential role models for youth; and
- WHEREAS, While a few rare diseases are carefully treated by low administered doses of steroids, massive daily doses are often taken by athletes; and
- WHEREAS, Adolescents are interested in anabolic steroids because they hope to attain a seemingly more muscular and attractive physique; and
- WHEREAS, Steroids have an alarming side effect of causing premature closure of the growth plates of the long bones, thereby, stunting natural growth; and
- WHEREAS, Most anabolic steroids are obtained through the black market and could be extremely dangerous to the user; and
- WHEREAS, The passing of SB 120 (Regulation of Steroid Use-1989) classifies anabolic steroids as a Schedule III controlled substance and prohibits use without a prescription by a licensed practitioner; and
- WHEREAS, A cooperative effort is critically needed to alert and educate the community and especially our youth to the danger of using anabolic steroids; now, therefore, be it
- Resolved, That Utah PTAs on all levels promote educational programs, meetings and workshops, to alert, inform and educate parents, students, teachers, coaches and the community to the dangers of using anabolic steroids including obtaining said drugs illegally through the black market; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA encourage the Utah State Board of Education to emphasize the life shortening long-term dangers of anabolic steroid use, and present nutritional and training

alternatives to anabolic steroids through effective curriculum and teacher inservice training; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA strongly urges the Utah High School Activity Association to develop guidelines that regulate and monitor the eligibility to participate in activities and events that encourage the enforcement of current laws that prohibit the use of anabolic steroids; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA Regional Directors urge and support their local school boards to up-date current alcohol, drug and tobacco guidelines and codes to include anabolic steroids as a Schedule III drug, and draft appropriate restrictions, regulations, violations, and penalties, etc.; and be it further

Resolved, That parents, students, school administration, teachers, coaches and community members unite in developing attitudes, actions and activities that enable every child to perform at his or her own "peak performance" level through sensible nutrition, physical training and positive reinforcement; and be it further

Resolved, That the State Board of Education be asked to appoint a task force including representatives of the PTA, state and local school board, teachers, administrators, and health professionals to recommend the adoption of appropriate penalties for those who use, distribute or encourage the illicit use of steroids by students; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be forwarded to the National PTA to be considered at their June 1989 Convention.