

FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME AND FETAL ALCOHOL EFFECTS IN CHILDREN

- WHEREAS, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Fetal Alcohol Effects (FAS/FAE) are recognized as the leading cause of mental retardation and behavioral dysfunction in children and are entirely preventable; and
- WHEREAS, Current medical research indicates that children with FAS/FAE have abnormalities of brain and central nervous system that affect children from fetus onward; and
- WHEREAS, When unidentified and untreated, children with FAS/FAE are at much greater risk for academic underachievement, school failure and dropout, low self-esteem behavioral and family problems; and
- WHEREAS, Without specific intervention, students who have FAS/FAE may disrupt the classroom affecting not only their success but the success of other students; now, therefore, be it
- Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies educate parents, school personnel and communities on symptoms and behaviors of FAS/FAE children through literature and workshops, and stress the importance of early diagnosis and treatment; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA work to ensure that there are questions asked in prenatal health care about use of alcohol, and that the medical community understand and work to educate people concerning the prevention of FAS/FAE; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies support effective interventions tailored to the unique learning strengths and needs of every child and that, when available, school psychologists have a vital role in developing and monitoring effective interventions with students with FAS/FAE; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies support legislation and recognition of FAS/FAE students as needing special services, special education, and identification and inclusion in IDEA and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and other governmental programs so that people so affected can receive the services they are in need of; and be it further
- Resolved That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies support legislation for funding to assist in training parents, teachers and other school personnel in identification and treatment methods for FASFAE children and also support funding for further research into the treatment for FAS/FAE children; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA submit this resolution to National PTA for their consideration.