USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS AS IDENTIFICATION

WHEREAS, The Objects of the PTA promise to "secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth"; and

WHEREAS, Student Social Security numbers are required by schools and are used as a form of identification on permanent record files and on standardized tests; and

WHEREAS, The Social Security Act of 1935 clearly states that Social Security numbers are guaranteed to be kept private "unless disclosure to a government agency is required by law or the information is needed to conduct Social Security or other government health or welfare programs"; and

WHEREAS, The use of Social Security numbers for the purpose of student identification is not lawful and fringes upon students' rights to privacy; and

WHEREAS, Standardized tests, identified with a student's name and Social Security number, are being processed by prison inmates, and

WHEREAS, The use of prison inmates in the processing of standardized tests places students in jeopardy of fraud and exploitation, and

WHEREAS, The Tennessee PTA acknowledges its responsibility to secure laws to protect children and youth; be it therefore

RESOLVED, That the Tennessee PTA encourage the Tennessee State Department of Education to provide our children and youth with security and privacy, as declared and guaranteed by law, by discontinuing the practice of using Social Security numbers as a means of student identification and immediately discontinue the policy of allowing proven criminals access to student names, social security numbers and other private information

Adopted by the 2000 Convention Delegates

Referred to Legislative Committee – 11, 2005