

ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR EDUCATION

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4 WHEREAS, Tennessee ranks 49th nationally in expenditures for elementary and
5 secondary education. The U.S. Census Bureau reveals that State and
6 local taxes in Tennessee, as a percentage of personal income are the
7 lowest of any state other than New Hampshire; and
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9 WHEREAS, Tennessee is the only Southeastern state without a state-funded reading
10 initiative despite the fact that only one in four of the state's 4th grade
11 students are proficient in reading; and
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13 WHEREAS, Tennessee is falling behind in technology ranking 42nd nationally in the
14 number of students per computer and the number of students having
15 access to Internet-ready computers, and
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17 WHEREAS, Tennessee's Governor's Schools, a summer program that sent hundreds
18 of high school students to college campuses across the state for
19 academic enrichment, will not operate this summer; and
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21 WHEREAS, Due to the fiscal crisis facing our state, Tennessee's schools could face
22 losing millions in state revenue; therefore further reducing education
23 funding for a state already ranked 49th out of the 50 states; be it therefore
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25 RESOLVED, That the Tennessee PTA and its constituent bodies urge the
26 Tennessee Legislature to make education funding the first priority in
27 budget matters and to seek long-term, permanent funding solutions for
28 education; and be it further
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30 RESOLVED, That the Tennessee PTA and its constituent bodies urge the Tennessee
31 Legislature to make NO cuts to current education funding; and be it
32 further
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34 RESOLVED, That the Tennessee PTA and its constituent bodies encourage legislators
35 to fully fund the Basic Education Plan (BEP); and be it further
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37 RESOLVED, That the Tennessee PTA and its constituent bodies encourage the
38 Tennessee Legislature to fully fund all legislated education mandates;
39 and be it further
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41 RESOLVED, That the Tennessee PTA and its constituent bodies work to educate the
42 general public of the dangerous situation facing education in Tennessee
43 and to urge their membership to personally contact their legislators.
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46 Adopted by the 2002 Convention Delegates