

RESOLUTIONS

ARTS DEPARTMENT

1. **WISCONSIN ARTS BOARD FUNDING – 1977, Reaffirmed 1982, Amended 1986, 2010 Reaffirmed 1990, Reviewed 1994. 1998, 2002, 2006, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, The State of Wisconsin established the official Arts Agency known as the Wisconsin Arts Board in 1973, which provided greater opportunities for the education and cultural growth for the citizens of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, The experience, practice, and enjoyment of the Arts are of increasing importance to the general welfare of the people of the State, and are a vital part of the State's culture and heritage and a valued part of its educational programs; and

WHEREAS, Funds are needed to promote the Arts in both the urban and rural areas; and

WHEREAS, The funding of the Arts Board should be maintained as a separate entity; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin calls upon the Wisconsin State Legislature to continue to support legislation allocating state funds to the Wisconsin Arts Board.

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

1. **AIR POLLUTION – Reaffirmed 1977, 1982, 1989, 1995, Reviewed 1999, Revised 2003, 2007 Amended 2011, Revised 2015**

WHEREAS, Conclusive evidence has shown air pollution to be affecting the health and safety of all persons, especially those in urban areas, and a threat to plant and animal life; and

WHEREAS, This air pollution costs Americans billions of dollars a year; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges all government, local, state and national, and industry, to use all technological means available to minimize air pollution; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin gives its full support to the adoption of the highest possible air quality standards for the state, and further proposes that the public and private sectors increase their research and development efforts to minimize contamination.

2. **ARBOR DAY – 1981, Amended 1985,2011 Reaffirmed 1987, 1991, Reviewed 1996, 2000, 2004, 2007, 2011, 2015**

WHEREAS, Wisconsin, by state statute, celebrates Arbor Day on the last Friday in April each year; and

WHEREAS, It is important that Wisconsin citizens recognize that forest lands support state industries, contribute to the beauty of the state, and are a renewable resource; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day should be especially meaningful to schoolchildren in Wisconsin, through educational benefits which remain long after the programs are over; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin supports community Arbor Day observations.

3. **ENERGY RESOURCES – 1976, Reaffirmed 1980, Amended 1983, Reaffirmed 1987, 1991, Reviewed 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, The world is consuming its natural energy resources far faster than they can be replenished; and

WHEREAS, Our consumption is increasing at a rate proportionately higher than our current supply and predicted future supplies can provide; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin shall encourage use of alternate sources of energy wherever and whenever practical and/or possible; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin shall support concentrated efforts in energy usage and natural energy research.

4. **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION – 1974, Reaffirmed 1978, 1982, 1986, 1990, Reviewed 1994, 1998, 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, The deterioration of the quality of the state's environment, of the quality of resources and of ecological and economic balance poses a serious threat to the strength and vitality of the people; and

WHEREAS, This deterioration is in part due to poor understanding of the state's resources and environment and of the need for ecological balances; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin supports efforts to educate citizens about wise resource management, environmental protection, ecological balance, energy conservation and development planning through the creation of statewide environmental education programs.

5. **HAZARDOUS WASTE – 1998, Reviewed 2002, 2006 ,2010, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, Hazardous waste is considered to be one of the major problems in our nation today and the disposal of hazardous waste, especially land-filling, is dangerous to the health of this and future generations, and

WHEREAS, Household products such as caustics and corrosives, solvents, paint products, aerosol sprays, pesticides and herbicides, and automotive products become hazardous if they are used improperly, or disposed of improperly; and

WHEREAS, Improper use may cause toxic health effects, improper storage may allow chemicals to leak into the environment, and improper use allows these chemicals to enter directly into soil and waterways or groundwater; and

WHEREAS, The transportation of industrial hazardous wastes is potentially perilous to human health and the environment; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin promotes public awareness of the dangers of improper use, storage and disposal of hazardous household products; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges all members to use alternate non-toxic household products whenever possible; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges our Legislators to strengthen legislation encouraging industry to reduce the amount of hazardous waste initially produced, thus decreasing transportation of hazardous waste to, and disposal of hazardous waste into, secured landfills.

6. **WASTE DISPOSAL AND RESOURCE RECOVERY – 1974, Reaffirmed 1978, Amended 1981, Reaffirmed 1985, 1989, 1995, Amended 1999, Reviewed 2003, 2007, 2011, 2015**

WHEREAS, The people of Wisconsin have the right to a clean and wholesome environment; and

WHEREAS, Waste disposal and resource recovery have been improved as a result of the Recycling Laws, there still exists environmental damage, waste of valuable land and other resources, and practices contributing to health and welfare hazards; and

WHEREAS, Local governments responsible for waste disposal services are becoming hard pressed to provide adequate services at reasonable costs; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin supports appropriate action to provide the necessary systems, facilities, technology and services for waste management and resource recovery.

7. **WATER POLLUTION – 1969, Reaffirmed 1977, 1981, Amended 1983, Reaffirmed 1987, 1991, Reviewed 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, amended 2016**

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's most important natural resource is WATER, and we must protect it; and

WHEREAS, The health and welfare of future generations of this nation will depend directly upon the availability of an extensive supply of clean fresh water; and

WHEREAS, The people of the nation have the right to the enjoyment of clean and unpolluted lakes, rivers, and streams, both for aesthetic and recreational enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, There are many practices in our society at present, whether committed in ignorance or knowingly, by private individuals or corporate bodies, which threaten our waterways with escalating pollution; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin strongly opposes any and all activities which tend to degrade the quality of the waters of this nation, whether by using processes which increase sedimentation, or poisons and pollutes the waters, undermining their natural life-sustaining character; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin supports a strong Clean Water Act at the national level and works for state and local legislation that will improve water quality.

8. **WETLAND PRESERVATION – 1970, Reaffirmed 1983, 1987, 1991, Reviewed 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, Wetlands are a part of a chain of biological processes and events related to all living things and provide habitats for a wide variety of wildlife; and

WHEREAS, Wetlands serve to control flood waters, to maintain stream flow, to contain and trap sediments and wastes from upland runoff; and

WHEREAS, Wetlands in the State of Wisconsin have decreased in size to one-fourth that of 1850, even though they are places of natural beauty and educational opportunities; therefore

RESOLVED, That the members of the GFWC-Wisconsin support legislation which may be written in compliance with preservation of wetlands, a valuable natural resource.

9. **INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES OF PLANT LIFE – 1996, Reviewed 2000, Amended 2004, reviewed 2008, 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, There are many species of plant and animal life which are beneficial to humans and animals, there are many which have invaded and altered terrestrial and aquatic areas threatening the existence of native environment and a major cause of loss of biological diversity; and

WHEREAS, There are serious aquatic invasive plants which create dense growths and once established are almost impossible to control; and

WHEREAS, There is a very toxic subtropical bluegreen algal species which once established will seriously impact the waters for many animals, including humans; and

WHEREAS, There are serious land invasive plants which create dense growths and once establish are almost impossible to control; and

WHEREAS, There are serious aquatic invasive animals which impact native environments; and

WHEREAS, There are serious land invasive animals which impact native environments; and

WHEREAS, These taxa – without competitors and natural enemies such as parasites, pathogens and predators – are spreading rapidly into the state transmitted by humans, winds, boats, flood water, wildlife and ships from other parts of the world emptying ballast water thus actually inoculating aliens into the Great Lakes; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its members to work with local and state land and water management groups and educate young and old in efforts to control and eradicate these and other alien plant and animal life which threatens native environs.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

1. **LEARNING DISABILITIES – 1990, Reviewed 1994, 1998, 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, Amended 2018**

WHEREAS, Research indicates that undetected learning disabilities may be the chief problem of a large number of children who do not do well in school, and

WHEREAS, Early detection of a learning disability will enable a child to overcome a potential learning difficulty which, at the very least, can make life easier as the child grows; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its member clubs to:

1. Educate their members and their communities about special needs;
2. Support, on a volunteer basis, programs to teach children with special needs in the local communities;
3. Support the development of programs which would sensitize regular education students to the problems of special needs students.

2. **LITERACY -1964, Amended 1972, Reaffirmed 1976, 1980, 1985, Amended 1989, 2011 Reaffirmed 1995, 1999, Reviewed 2003, 2007, amended 2015**

WHEREAS, Our expanding technology, our increasing populations, and our highly complex society require increasingly competent citizens; and

WHEREAS, Increasing numbers of our children and job-seeking adults are functionally illiterate; and

WHEREAS, Good citizenship is dependent upon the ability to read, write, and comprehend; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin supports development of literacy skill through ongoing research and development, policy, planning and coordination at both the local and state levels of our educational system.

3. **SCHOOL TRUANCY – 1998, Amended 2000, Reviewed 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, Habitual truancy by school children has become a matter of grave concern as it interferes with the education processes so vital to their becoming productive adults; and

WHEREAS, Enabling truancy by providing excuses for absence, parents/guardians of these habitually truant children have little regard for damage inflicted on these children; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin supports all reasonable actions by the Legislature and school systems to curb habitual truancy and to inform parents/guardians of the long-term effects of their enabling the truancy.

4. **VOLUNTEER SERVICE ON EMPLOYEE APPLICATIONS – 1985, Reaffirmed 1988, 1992, Amended 2009 Reviewed 1997, 2001, 2005, 2013, 2017**

WHEREAS, Increasing numbers of women are seeking to enter the workforce for the first time, or to return following prolonged periods of non-wage-status; and

WHEREAS, Many women have held highly responsible positions within the volunteer sector; and

WHEREAS, The skills acquired in volunteer service are commensurate with on-the-job experience; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges all employers to include a section for volunteer service on applications and that volunteer service be included as creditable experience for employment.

5. **REINSTATEMENT OF CURSIVE WRITING IN THE WI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM CURRICULUM 2018**

WHEREAS, AS OF 2010 THE Wisconsin public state standards do not require handwriting instruction;

WHEREAS, Studies have shown that children who learn cursive writing score better on reading and spelling tests;

WHEREAS, Proponents of cursive writing instruction contend that learning cursive is an important tool for cognitive development improving vital hand and brain connections in children;

WHEREAS, Over twenty of the states have reinstated the instruction of cursive handwriting as well as New York City;

WHEREAS, The next generation of students will be unable to sign their names or read documents written in cursive, such as the Bill of Rights, the Magna Carta or the United States Constitution and therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The General Federation of Women's Clubs-Wisconsin supports the reinstatement of cursive handwriting instruction in the Wisconsin Department of Education public school curriculum

HOME LIFE DEPARTMENT

1. **ADVERTISING OF ALL MEDICATIONS – 1972, Reaffirmed 1977, 1981, 1985, 1989, 1993, Reviewed 1997, 2001, 2005, 2013 Amended 2009, Reviewed 2013, 2017**

WHEREAS, Advertising is known to have a profound effect on the living habits; and

WHEREAS, Some advertising of non-prescription medications drugs tends to glorify “pills” as the panacea for everything; and

WHEREAS, The excess consumption of patent medicines is of grave national concern; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin works to stop the glorification of non-prescription medications and to promote legislation that carefully controls the advertising of same.

2. **ALCOHOLISM – 1976, Reaffirmed 1980, 1985, 1989, 1995, Reviewed 1999, 2003, 2007 Amended 2011, Amended 2015**

WHEREAS, Alcohol has become the number one drug of abuse, because of its wide social acceptance in our country; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC-Wisconsin accepts alcoholism as a complex illness consisting of physiological, psychological, and sociological aspects, and recognizes it as an illness that is growing in our state at a rapidly increasing rate; and

WHEREAS, Effective citizen responsibility in preventing alcoholism is largely dependent upon a sound program of awareness education, intervention and treatment of alcoholism; therefore

RESOLVED, That the member clubs of the GFWC-Wisconsin, in cooperation with other organizations and associations, undertake a program of education concerning alcoholism and the dangers involved in allowing the illness to progress to the later stages, and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges improved legislation in the areas of awareness education, intervention and treatment of alcoholism and funding for the development of research programs in the area of more effective treatment for this illness

3. **BASIC COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES 1987, Amended 1991, 1995 Reviewed 1999, 2003 ,2009, 2013, Amended 2017**

WHEREAS, Wisconsin citizens with developmental disabilities are on waiting lists for basic services; and

WHEREAS, These services include community residential services such as group homes, apartments, respite care, family support services and adult work-related opportunities as well as day services, and early interventions for children from birth through age 2.

WHEREAS, When young adults transition from the school system and when they are placed on waiting lists and receive no adult services, they may lose skills acquired in school.

WHEREAS, Community services intended to promote the health and safety of all citizens of Wisconsin are not always available to individuals with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Existing legislation does not guarantee that people with developmental disabilities will receive the services they need; and

WHEREAS, Individuals with developmental disabilities need the understanding and help of Wisconsin citizens if they are to effectively achieve their highest potential for healthy, happy and productive lives; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin declares the waiting lists to be a critical denial of basic rights of individuals with developmental disabilities and advocates for and supports a legislative entitlement to basic community services for all Wisconsin citizens with developmental disabilities; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin encourages its local clubs to assist individuals and their families with developmental disabilities in their communities to help them live healthier, happier lives.

4. **COMPLIANCE WITH AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT – 1995, Reviewed 1999, 2013 Amended 2003, Reviewed 2009, 2013, 2017**

WHEREAS, Many local communities are not fully in compliance with the American Disabilities act and leave their disabled citizens in need of accessibility to facilities used by able-bodied persons; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its members to work in their communities for compliance with the American Disabilities Act .

5. **DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE – 1969, Reaffirmed 1972, Amended 1976, Reaffirmed 1980, 1985, Amended 1989,2010 Reviewed 1993, 1997, 2001, 2005, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, The GFWC-Wisconsin is alarmed at the increasing abuse of alcohol and other dangerous drugs and the resultant effect on the physical, emotional, and moral fiber of the people; and

WHEREAS, Effective citizen responsibility in preventing drug and alcohol abuse is largely dependent upon a sound program of education on the dangers involved in drug and alcohol abuse; and

WHEREAS, The misuse of drugs and alcohol has become a serious menace to safety in all forms of transportation as well as health; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin in cooperation with other organizations and associations undertake a program of education concerning drug abuse and the dangers involved in the misuse of alcohol, amphetamines, barbiturates, hallucinogens, and narcotic drugs; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges rigid enforcement of laws regulating the production, sale and distribution of drugs and alcohol.

6. **JUVENILE SMOKING** – 1963, Reaffirmed 1971, 1977, 1983, 1987, 1991, Reviewed 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, Amended 2016

WHEREAS, We deem it important to discourage young people from smoking because of the known medical evidence of its long-range, serious effects on health; therefore

RESOLVED, With the introduction of E cigarettes (known as vaping) that are flavor made to entice children to smoke, should be included in anti-smoking education as they also contain carcinogens.

7. **MEAT INSPECTIONS** – 1968, Amended 1972, Reaffirmed 1977, 1981, 1985, 1989, Reviewed 1993, 1997, 2001, 2005, 2009, 2013, 2017

WHEREAS, Safe and wholesome meat and poultry is of vital importance to the health and welfare of the consuming public; and

WHEREAS, The Federal meat and poultry inspections program is responsible for safe and wholesome meat and poultry in interstate commerce; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges that sufficient funds be granted to the meat and poultry inspection budget to assure adequate supply of safe and wholesome meat and poultry for interstate shipment to the consuming public.

8. **OSTEOPOROSIS PREVENTION AND TREATMENT EDUCATION** – 1998, Reviewed 2002, 2006, 2014, Amended 2010, reviewed 2014, 2018

WHEREAS, Osteoporosis is known as the “silent disease” which has no symptoms and often goes undetected until a fracture occurs; and

WHEREAS, Since osteoporosis has no cure, prevention, early diagnosis and treatment are key to reducing the prevalence of, the devastation from, and the escalating cost of treatment for this disease, and

WHEREAS, New medical technology that measures bone density enables physicians to detect the bone thinning of osteoporosis soon enough to make aggressive treatment possible; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin cooperates with other organizations and associations to raise awareness of the need for standardized bone density testing; and further

RESOLVED, That GFWC-Wisconsin urges its member clubs to support legislation mandating private and government sponsored coverage for Osteoporosis being developed by the National Osteoporosis Foundation (NOF) and to enact osteoporosis education and treatment.

9. **PURE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION** – 1955, Amended 1972, Reaffirmed 1976, 1980, 1985, 1989, Reviewed 1993, 1997, 2001, 2005, 2009, 2013, 2017

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women’s Clubs was instrumental in helping establish the Pure Food and Drug Administration; and

WHEREAS, Continued vigilance and action are necessary by the Food and Drug Administration to protect the American public from hazardous foods and drugs and other dangerous products; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin endorses the strengthening of the Pure Food and Drug Administration to adequately safeguard the health and welfare of the consumer.

10. **SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES – 1967, Reaffirmed 1971, 1977, 1981, 1985 Amended 1989, Reviewed 1993, 1997, 2001, 2005 ,2009, 2013, 2017**

WHEREAS, The increase of sexually transmitted diseases in both rural and urban Wisconsin has become a serious public health menace; and

WHEREAS, Too many cases reported in Wisconsin today are in the advanced stage; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges all member clubs to cooperate with local public health officials, school boards, parent groups, and religious organizations to form educational programs to alert both youth and adults to the seriousness of sexually transmitted diseases.

11. **TELEVISION AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA PROGRAMMING – 1969, Amended 1976, Reaffirmed 1980, 1985, 1989, 2013 Reviewed 1993, 1997, 2001, 2005,2009, 2013, 2017**

WHEREAS, Television and electronic media such as streaming video, pod casts and online programming are powerful means of mass communication; and

WHEREAS, For many families, these media may be the main source of news, family entertainment and education; and

WHEREAS, Programming includes an inordinate amount of violence, sex and insensitive advertising; and

WHEREAS, Programming and advertising are manifested in the intellectual, emotional, and social growth of children and adults; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin supports efforts to raise standards of programming and advertising and to increase the use of all media as an educational, informational, and family entertainment source.

12. **TOXIC HOUSEHOLD SUBSTANCES – 1977, Reaffirmed 1981, 1985, 1989, Reviewed 1993, 1997, 2001, 2005, 2013 Amended 2009, reviewed 2013, 2017**

WHEREAS, Many young people become seriously ill or die due to eating or drinking toxic substances; and

WHEREAS, These same young children are not able to read labels of warning on containers of toxic household substances; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges the Wisconsin Legislature to introduce and enact legislation which would require companies which produce and distribute these harmful household substances to display a pictorial symbol on all their labeling; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin support poison control education and use of the Mr. Yuk stickers, and further

RESOLVED, That these symbols be large and easily recognized by the non-reader.

13. **MENTAL HEALTH CARE – 2007 Reviewed 2011, 2015**

WHEREAS, mental illness in children and adults can be manifested in many forms and in many degrees of severity, and diagnosis can be difficult because of its complexity, and

WHEREAS, all persons affected by mental illness are often left at the mercy of a system with inadequate funding for supervisory personnel and case managers, a shortage of mental health care professionals in rural areas, and insufficient reimbursement for Medicaid patients, which makes them victims a second time, and

WHEREAS, adequate safe housing is minimal and generally not affordable because of limited subsidies for person diagnosed with mental illness, and

WHEREAS, this limitation can result in substandard living conditions, therefore,

RESOLVED, that GFWC-WI urges its members and clubs to become advocates for access to mental health care for all children and adults and for adequate living conditions for persons affected by mental illness, and

RESOLVED, that wherever possible, these members and clubs urge their local and state authorities to work jointly toward this end.

14. **CANCER PREVENTION -2010, Reviewed 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, Cancer is a serious, chronic and costly health problem; and

WHEREAS, Many cancers, including but not limited to skin, lung, colon, esophagus and kidney, can be prevented through awareness and healthy life style choices; therefore;

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Woman's Clubs – Wisconsin urges its member clubs to support public education as to the risks of sun exposure, tanning, smoking and improper nutrition; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Woman's Clubs – Wisconsin support stricter legislation on tanning bed safety and smoking; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Woman's Clubs – Wisconsin urges it's member clubs to support nutritious menus in local schools to help children to understand the wisdom of good food choices and the effect on their lives in the prevention of potential disease.

15. **OPIOIDS – 2018**

WHEREAS, Opioids are commonly prescribed natural or synthetic chemical pain killers such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, methadone, fentanyl and other painkillers; and

WHEREAS, Overdose slows a person's breathing, may cause brain damage and death, and a multitude of other acute and chronic conditions; and

WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, legal prescription opioid overdoses and addictions have reached epidemic proportions; and

WHEREAS, Opioid abuse is a serious public health issue and drug overdose deaths are the leading cause of non-intentional injury deaths in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Prescription opioids can be an effective form of pain management but is important to understand the benefits and risks;

WHEREAS, The immediate treatment for overdose can reverse the impact of morbidity and mortality; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs-WI urges its member clubs to advocate for the development of educational awareness programs for providers, patients, and the community; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs-WI urges its member clubs to promote legislation and regulations to combat opioid overdose and addiction; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs-WI advocate for all police officers and first responders to carry naloxone to be used when answering any call.

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES DEPARTMENT

NONE

PUBLIC ISSUES DEPARTMENT

1. **ABUSED PERSONS – 1994, Reviewed 1998, Amended 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, Physical, emotional, verbal and sexual abuse continues to increase within our society cutting across age, ethnic, racial, educational and socio-economic lines and can cause emotional distress, physical injury and death to children and adults; and

WHEREAS, Abused persons often become the abusers, thus perpetuating the cycle of abuse; and

WHEREAS, There continues to be a need for emergency and counseling services for all victims of abuse; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin shall support legislation and actively promote programs which will:

1. Identify at-risk families and suspected cases of child abuse, elder abuse and battered spouses.
2. Provide emergency aid and shelter for those who are forced to leave violent family settings.
3. Provide treatment, support and advocacy for victims and rehabilitation for perpetrators of abuse.
4. Provide public awareness and education programs concerning prevention of abuse; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its member clubs to enlist the help of hospitals, doctors, lawyers, police, churches, counseling services, social service agencies, domestic violence shelters and programs, and clinics in a united effort for prevention and treatment of abused persons.

2. **BULLYING-2011, reviewed 2015**

WHEREAS, Bullying can be any verbal, written or physical act that intentionally causes mental or physical harm; and

WHEREAS, Bullying can also occur through electronic means, such as internet, cell phone and other electronic devices; and

WHEREAS, Bullying can cause long term emotional problems and has been identified as a cause of youth suicide; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC-Wisconsin urges its member clubs to promote community education about the seriousness of bullying; and further

RESOLVED, That GFWC-Wisconsin urges its member clubs to support legislation to increase resources for prevention of bullying.

3. **PORNOGRAPHY – Retitled and renumbered 2001, 2005, Amended 2010, reviewed 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, American morals are besieged today by an unprincipled force in the spread of pornography and obscenity put into otherwise acceptable media: films, playing cards, photographs, comic books, paperback books, magazines, telephone messages, the U.S. Mail, music computer games, Fax, e-mail, Internet; and

WHEREAS, Pornography is a major threat to American health and is known to be addictive and progressive; and

WHEREAS, Sexual related crimes have increased since the Wisconsin Obscenity Law was struck down in 1980; and

WHEREAS, The FBI states there is a definite correlation between sexual crimes and pornographic material; and

WHEREAS, Pornography should be treated as a violation of female and male civil rights; and

WHEREAS, Each year millions of dollars are spent in Wisconsin to treat the victims of and the problems resulting from pornography; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin strongly urges its member clubs to use every available means to combat obscenity and pornography by programs of cooperative action based on:

1. Education of the public as to the extent of the problem and the effects on society of obscenity and pornographic materials;
2. Supporting the strict enforcement of existing laws and programs, such as those administered by the United States Postmaster General;
3. Cooperation with law enforcement agencies in the prosecution of those who violate the laws and ordinances dealing with pornography and obscenity and by studying municipal ordinances, state statutes and urging the strengthening of them when needed.

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges the Wisconsin Legislators to enact a strong, enforceable, constitutional obscenity law.

4. **DRUNK DRIVING – 1999, Amended 2000, Reviewed 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, The use of alcohol by drivers on highways, particularly excessive use by problem drinkers, is the single most important safety issue today; and

WHEREAS, Alcohol involvement by drivers and pedestrians is responsible for more deaths on the highway than any other factor; and

WHEREAS, Young people can be put at risk when driven home from baby-sitting jobs if the employer is intoxicated; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin drunk driving laws are too lenient and so do not deter repeat offenders as our prosecutors and judges seem unwilling to impose the maximum sentences for repeat offenders; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its members to help establish more programs which would provide “ride home” funding for baby-sitters; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin continues working to strengthen and increase the penalties for drunk driving; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin support the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s Alcohol Safety Countermeasures Program by cooperating with their national educational program.

5. **ENGLISH, OFFICIAL U.S.A. LANGUAGE – 1996, Reviewed 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, The United States of America has been enriched by the cultural contributions of immigrants from many traditions and blessed with one common language (English) which has united a diverse nation and fostered harmony among its people; and

WHEREAS, The public schools of the nation have a special obligation to transmit the common culture and civic values of the United States of America and to accelerate the assimilation of immigrant students to American society; and

WHEREAS, English is the national language of the United States of America by custom only, enjoying no official protection, and is subject to erosion with increased use of other languages which could be a divisive force within this nation; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its State Clubs to work for a constitutional amendment which establishes English as the official language of the United States of America; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin supports the enforcement of the English language requirement of USA naturalization.

6. **EQUAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR WOMEN – 1980, Reaffirmed 1987, 1991, Reviewed 1996, 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the United States does not guarantee equality of status for women, except with regard to the right to vote, and will guarantee equality of other rights only when an amendment for the purpose is included therein; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin affirms its support of the Equal Rights Amendment, which would provide that equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of gender.

7. **FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS – 1994, Reviewed 1998, Amended 2002, 2006,2009, 2013, Amended 2017**

WHEREAS, The future depends on the vision, courage, faith, and devotion of those who believe that freedom must underline any satisfying personal life, political order or productive economy; and

WHEREAS, Our country and the documents guaranteeing our freedoms are sources of inspiration to people in many lands, giving them strength and guidance in their aspiring efforts

toward freedom, .because they are based on the doctrine of freedom of the individual, limited only by transgression of the freedoms of others; therefore

RESOLVED: That the GFWC-Wisconsin:

1. Declares that our fundamental human rights and the principles of freedom are for all;
2. Support programs of education, especially in schools, highlighting the freedoms set forth in the Bill of Rights.
- 3.

8. **GANG GRAFFITI – 1995, Reviewed 1999, 2003, 2007, 2011, 2015**

WHEREAS, Gang graffiti with its symbols and markings is an ever increasing problem on both public and private property, defacing not only large spaces but even mailboxes and the areas around public telephones; and

WHEREAS, The costs of cleanup to individuals, businesses and government is an unnecessary burden; and

WHEREAS, Ordinances regarding spray paint sales have lessened that particular use markers are still in use and difficult to remove and/or cover with anti-graffiti paint; and

WHEREAS, Local laws regarding graffiti vandals are effective only if the “artist” is caught while actually plying his craft; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its members to be aware of the ordinances and laws pertaining to the defacing of property by graffiti and to work with authorities to enforce these statutes.

9. **FIREARMS SAFETY – 1998, Amended 2001, 2005 Reviewed 2009, 2013, 2017**

WHEREAS One of the most alarming crisis we face in our country is the dramatic increase in violent crimes; and

WHEREAS, While some recent laws have been effective to a degree in curtailing the increase in crimes, they have not deterred the criminal from committing his/her acts nor have they caused a decrease in the use of firearms during the commission of crimes, making them violent crimes; and

WHEREAS, Controlling the sales of firearms has had little impact upon the accessibility to firearms by the criminal; and

WHEREAS, Increased and mandatory penalties may be an effective deterrent to the criminal in the use of firearms during the commission of crimes; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its members:

1. To study and keep abreast on the laws and ordinances that control the sale and possession of firearms;
2. To support a program for the adoption of strong and effective gun control laws;
3. To seek enforcement of all gun control laws and ordinances;
4. To seek support for gun safety lock legislation.

10. **HIGHWAY SAFETY – 1968, Amended 1972, Reaffirmed 1977, 1981, 1985, Amended 1989, Reviewed 1993, 1997, 2001, 2005 ,2009, 2013, Amended 2017**

WHEREAS, Highway accidents continue to take an unabated toll of lives and cause economic waste; and

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its member clubs to adopt and promote traffic safety programs; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin promotes responsible traffic safety legislation and seeks full enforcement and public cooperation with our enforcement agencies.

11. **HOME VISITING FOR FIRST TIME PARENTS – 1998, Reviewed 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, Home visiting programs which use paraprofessionals who regularly visit the homes of new parents, provide support and information that help new parents and babies establish healthy child rearing patterns from the start; and

WHEREAS, Such programs have been shown to provide cost effective – perhaps the only effective – means of child abuse and neglect prevention; and

WHEREAS, Research points to the first two to three years as crucial ones for forming attachments to other humans, and for developing the essential building blocks of social behavior (acceptable or delinquent); and

WHEREAS, Research on home visiting programs shows savings in less foster care, less intervention by child welfare, fewer prison costs, less youth violence, and more highly employed parents, more commonly completed parental education, better child spacing, better access to health care, less use of emergency rooms and hospitalization, fewer public housing costs, better school readiness, less money spent on special services, remedial education and emotionally disturbed students; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin promotes the practice of Home Visiting and the introduction of legislation supporting Home Visiting programs for new parents.

12. **INATTENTIVE DRIVING OF MOTOR VEHICLES – 2000, Reviewed 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, There has been an alarming increase in automobile crashes caused by escalating numbers of inattentive drivers of these vehicles performing personal grooming activities, reading maps or other papers and, talking or texting on mobile devices; and

WHEREAS, Motorized vehicles are powerful machines which require full and undivided attention of drivers of these vehicles whether on city streets or highways; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its members and clubs to advocate the passage of enforceable laws to halt these activities by individuals while operating a motor vehicle.

13. **INMATES' USE OF TAXPAYER MONIES – 1996, Reviewed 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, Prisons and jails throughout the state and nation are meant to be places of incarceration and, hopefully, rehabilitation of perpetrators of crimes, but are not meant to be sites of wastes of taxpayers' monies; and

WHEREAS, Frivolous lawsuits by inmates over supposed wrongs cost thousands of dollars, and untold hours of court time which is sorely needed for justified cases; and

WHEREAS, Health care for inmates in many instances is more available and better than that which the average law-abiding citizens is able to afford; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its members to be aware of these injustices and wastes of taxpayer monies in the prison and jail systems and to respond in their local communities when such matters are made known.

14. **JUVENILE JUSTICE CODE – 1995, Amended 1999, 2011 Reviewed 2003, 2007, 2011, 2015**

WHEREAS, The Juvenile Justice Code of Wisconsin is not equipped to deal with the increasing numbers of youthful violent offenders; and

WHEREAS, The offenders are younger and crimes more serious; and

WHEREAS, These young offenders lack a sense of responsibility and accountability and realization of the seriousness of the criminal act they have committed; and

WHEREAS, For serious criminal offenses, juveniles may be waived into adult court at the discretion of the judge; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin supports the Juvenile Code which provides for greater public safety and strengthens policies which provide serious punishment for serious crimes.

15. **MINIMUM AGE FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL – 1977, Amended 1998, Reviewed 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014**

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has made great strides to reduce the number of drunk driving accidents; and

WHEREAS, The 21 Minimum Drinking Age Law has been important in making our Wisconsin Highways safer; and

WHEREAS, The number-one killer of teens and young adults is alcohol-related traffic accidents; and

WHEREAS, Statistics have shown that the 21 Minimum Drinking Age has reduced, saved lives, prevented injuries and saved billions of dollars in reduced medical costs; and

WHEREAS, A bill is submitted annually in the Wisconsin Legislature to lower the minimum drinking age to 18 or 19; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC-Wisconsin is the sponsor of the Keep 21 Coalition; therefore

RESOLVED, That the member clubs of the GFWC-Wisconsin encourage their members to oppose any bill submitted in the Assembly and/or Senate of the Wisconsin Legislature for the lowering of the 21 Minimum Drinking age by writing or calling their representatives.

16. **PERIODIC MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION – 1967, Amended 1972, Reaffirmed 1977, 1981, 1987, 1991, Reviewed 1996, Amended 2000, Reviewed 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, Periodic motor vehicle inspection provides a formalized method of discovering vehicle defects that contribute to traffic accidents and also provides for correction of such hazards before a vehicle can pass inspection; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin recommends the adoption of periodic motor vehicle inspection, in compliance with federal highway safety standards.

17. **PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL LANDMARKS – 1965, Reaffirmed 1971, 1977, 1982, 1986, 1990, Reviewed 1994, 1998, 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014**

WHEREAS, Progress occasionally results in the demolition of buildings or landmarks of considerable historical and/or associative design and archeological value; and

WHEREAS, The destruction of landmarks of such value and which are capable of being preserved or restored, deprives the community of an important historical and cultural asset; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable that steps be taken to prevent the unnecessary demolition of such buildings and landmarks and to provide a means whereby they may be preserved for the benefit of the present and future generations; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its member clubs to report such danger of demolition of historical landmarks to their respective municipal governments and work for their preservation.

18. **RESPECT FOR THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES – 1994, Reviewed 1998, Amended 2000, Reviewed 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, The American flag is a rallying point for Americans and stands for patriotism and love of country; and

WHEREAS, For generations Americans have dedicated and given their lives to preserve the freedoms represented by the flag; and

WHEREAS, The flag of the United States of America is meant to be displayed every day and especially on national holidays; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its members to learn and practice proper flag etiquette; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its members to endorse the flying of our flag in a correct and respectful manner in their communities everyday; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin objects strongly to the improper burning of and to any manner of desecration of the American Flag.

19. **RELIGION IN AMERICAN LIST – 1978, Reaffirmed 1982, 1986, 1990, Reviewed 1994, 1998, 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, Certain individuals are attempting to remove religion and the proclamation of faith in God from their rightful place in our culture; and

WHEREAS, Petitions have been circulated and pressure brought to bear on our public officials to ban religious broadcasting on television and radio, to prevent religious programs from being held in public places, and to remove any reference to God from our money, court oaths and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges all members to take prompt action in making known their opposition to any forthcoming legislation which may be favorable to such a proposal.

20. **SCHOOL VIOLENCE – 1995, Amended 1999, 2011 Reviewed 2003, 2007, 2011, Amended 2016**

WHEREAS, Youths are carrying weapons and other destructive devices to school; and

WHEREAS, Students are being physically attacked by their peers on school premises, and teachers are being threatened and assaulted; and

WHEREAS, Juvenile arrests for violent offenses are increasing; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin join Wisconsin Education Association Council to create a safe school environment including clear disciplinary measures, parenting skills training and support groups for parents of disruptive/troubled children, and after-school programs for at-risk students.

21. **SEXUAL EXPLOITATION – 1977, Reaffirmed 1981, 1985, 1993, Reviewed 1997, Amended 2001, 2005, 2009, 2013, 2017**

WHEREAS, The exploitation of children in the performance of explicit and perverted sex acts for use on the internet, publications of pornographic printed materials, photographs, videos and films is a blatant violation of their rights; and

WHEREAS, The lucrative nature of the business has inspired criminal acts against children including kidnapping, imprisonment, and deprivation; and

WHEREAS, The welfare of the children is a prime concern to all levels of the General Federation of Women's Clubs; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges law enforcement agencies to take a strict stance in enforcement of existing laws against sexual abuse and exploitation of minors.

22. **STOP PHYSICAL PUNISHMENT OF CHILDREN – 1991, Reviewed 1996, Amended 2000, Reviewed 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, Parental use of physical punishment is ingrained in American culture and is difficult to eliminate because a majority of the American public condones spanking and does not identify spanking as "hitting;" and

WHEREAS, Condoning any kind of physical punishment gives some parents an excuse for inflicting physical child abuse and is one root cause of the current child abuse crisis in Wisconsin as elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, Research now conclusively demonstrates at least five negative outcomes of physical punishment of children:

1. Severe physical punishment is physical child abuse;
2. Some physical punishment not intended to be severe escalates to abuse;
3. All physical punishment, including that which is infrequent and causes only momentary pain, lowers a child's self-esteem and without remedial positive parenting will lead to aggression against society (delinquency/criminality) or against the self (psychological disorders);
4. Physical punishment teaches acceptance of physical force as a means of settling disputes;
5. Physical punishment does not teach a child self-directed behavior so the child continues to be dependent on adults or peers for behavioral controls; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin declares opposition to the use of any physical punishment by parents or other caretakers; and further

RESOLVED, That while clearly supporting the need for parents to discipline and to remove children from dangerous situations with whatever physical force is minimally necessary, the GFWC-Wisconsin takes the position that the American public must come to understand that

condoning parental use of physical punishment exacerbates rather than alleviates problems in the home and ultimately in our society.

23. **SUBVERSIVE ACTS – 1951, Reaffirmed 1957, 1977, 1982, Amended 1986, Reaffirmed 1990, Reviewed 1994,2010, Amended 1998, Reviewed 2002, 2006, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, Terrorism in all its forms of national and international violence has as its purpose the disruption of law and order and the disregard for life; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin supports the government of the United States and that of the several states in measures to halt the present alarming infiltration of subversives who would be dangerous to our country, and that we support all present and future Acts of Congress to implement the security of our nation.

24. **VICTIM /WITNESS ASSISTANCE – 1994, Reviewed 1998, 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, Victims and witnesses of violent crimes often suffer traumatic experiences after the occurrence of the crime as well as the time the offense was committed; and

WHEREAS, They may need medical aid, counseling, emotional support, shelter or financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, To assure that justice is carried out, victims and/or witnesses may require assistance in understanding the court procedures, or help in making it possible for them to appear in court; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its member clubs to support and sponsor the implementation of victim/witness projects.

25. **WELFARE REFORM – 1994, Amended 1998, Reviewed 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, Consideration must be given to the continuing education of welfare recipients to develop their work skills for gainful employment; and

WHEREAS, The State of Wisconsin is seeking means to reducing the costs of welfare and the burden which welfare places on taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Establishing paternity and enforcing child support is necessary to reduce welfare costs to counties and state; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin supports legislation designed as an equitable solution for welfare recipients to strengthen their family and economic status.

26. **NEGLECT AND MAINTENANCE OF CEMETERIES IN WISCONSIN – 2001, 2005 Reviewed 2009, 2013, 2017**

WHEREAS, A growing problem in Wisconsin is the neglect of cemeteries which do not sell ten or more lots per year. Cemeteries that sell ten or more lots per year are required to be registered with the Department of Regulation & Licensing, which would then have regulatory authority and jurisdiction over them; and

WHEREAS, The existence of cemeteries in disrepair is an all-too-common problem in Wisconsin; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC-Wisconsin support the Legislative proposal prepared by the State of Wisconsin's Department of Regulation & Licensing that would give the department

considerably more authority to regulate all cemeteries in Wisconsin and take firmer action in regard to neglect and maintenance.

27. **VOTER REGISTRATION ON ELECTION DAY – 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, The GFWC-Wisconsin believes that voter registration on Election Day causes;

1. Increased confusion
2. Unnecessary delays at the polls
3. Fraud; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin opposes voter registration on Election Day.

28. **VOTER IDENTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION – 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014**

WHEREAS, Voting is the right and responsibility of every American citizen; and eligible voters often fail to register to vote or do not vote on Election Day;

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin promotes education of the importance of voting and the electoral process; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its members to participate in voter registration drives and urges the legislature to enact laws requiring voters to show identification when at the polls on Election Day.

29. **TRIPLE-TRAILER TRUCKS – 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018**

WHEREAS, GFWC-Wisconsin has long been concerned with highway safety; and

WHEREAS, Advocates of triple-trailer trucks seek to have them made legal across the Nation's Interstate Highways; and

WHEREAS, These trailer-trucks measure at least 100 feet long and weigh over 100,000 pounds posing a greater threat to motorists than the present double-bottom (18 wheelers) now allowed in some states; and

WHEREAS, The Interstate system is already used by the trucking industry causing greater damage to roads and bridges, more congestion and unbalanced transportation systems; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin clubwomen actively work with the Governor, Department of Transportation and the Wisconsin Legislature to adopt legislation which would keep these triple-trailer trucks, including long double long combination vehicles (LCVS), off Wisconsin highways.

30. **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN (EMSC) – 2004, 2008, 2012, Amended 2016**

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs is concerned with the health and well-being of all children, especially in an emergency situation; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC and GFWC-Wisconsin have well-established programs with the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) organization; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC-Wisconsin has supplied 99% of the ambulances in Wisconsin with Pediatric bags which exceeds the recommended supply list; and

WHEREAS, It is an established fact that only a minimal amount of pediatric ambulance equipment is required by state law compared to equipment mandated for adults; and

WHEREAS, By definition a “pediatric patient” spans a large size and age range from infant to teenager, making the spectrum of types and sizes of equipment required far more complex than for adults; and

WHEREAS, EMSC’s recommended pediatric ambulance supply lists include a greater number and variety of items that are currently mandated by the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, Current Wisconsin laws do not even require ambulances to carry child safety seats on board; and

WHEREAS, Current Wisconsin laws governing the equipment mandated for use by emergency medical services are included under the TRANS309 statutes (Transportation Committee); therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin advocate the reopening of the TRANS309 statutes to re-examine whether the needs of pediatric patients are being met.

31. **REFUELING SAFETY – 2005, REVIEWED 2009, 2013, 2017**

WHEREAS, Many drivers create hazards for themselves at the time of refueling their automobiles by re-entering the car while the pumps are running, thus possibly causing electric shock and sparks, and

WHEREAS, Sudden flash fires can be ignited by such action, therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC-Wisconsin urges its members to become educated about the dangers of the possibility of sparks caused by touching the metal of the door; and reentering the vehicle

32. **MONITORING SEXUALLY VIOLENT PERSONS – 2005
Reviewed 2009, 2013, 2017**

WHEREAS, The State of Wisconsin is a leader in the nation on the release of sexually violent persons, and

WHEREAS, there is a high rate of recidivism among sexually violent persons, and

WHEREAS, the current national sex offender registry program is minimally sufficient, and

WHEREAS, the best protection against sexually violent persons is the education of children and caregivers regarding the behaviors used to attract potential victims, therefore

RESOLVED, that GFWC-WI urge the adoption of laws which support the aggressive prosecution, stringent pre-trial supervision, strict sentences, and intensive post-incarceration supervision of those who commit sexually violent offenses, and

RESOLVED, that GFWC-WI oppose the placement of individuals committed under Chapter 980 of the Wisconsin State statutes into residential areas or anywhere near where children regularly congregate, including but not limited to parks, schools, and sports parks, and

RESOLVED, that GFWC-WI assist and support local law enforcement and school districts in implementing protective behaviors curricula that have already been mandated state-wide, and

RESOLVED, that GFWC-WI support the adoption of federal legislation that provides for an updated, comprehensive national sex offender registry program that allows for uniform information across all 50 states, and

RESOLVED, that GFWC-WI promote and support community education programs aimed at providing information to both children and adults about how to identify behaviors used by sex offenders to attract victims and to teach protective behavior strategies.

33. **UNIVERSAL PRIMARY VOTING DAY FOR NATIONAL ELECTIONS – 2008, 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, the current system of primary voting days across the nation disenfranchises voters whose voting days are held days or weeks after the initial states have completed theirs, and

WHEREAS, this system has caused many potential candidates to withdraw early in the process thereby denying a vote to those whose voting days are later and limiting the choices for national office, therefore

RESOLVED, that the GFWC-Wisconsin urges its members to become vocal regarding this lack of a full slate of candidates from which to choose and to seek the assistance of their State Representatives to amend the law and work toward the creation of a nationwide voting day for primary elections.

34. **190 PROOF GRAIN ALCOHOL (ETHANOL) 2012, 2016**

WHEREAS, Statistics show that the rate of heavy use and binge drinking of Wisconsin's adults and teens is among the highest in the nation; and

WHEREAS, The danger associated with the use of 190 proof grain alcohol is significantly greater than that of lower proof alcohol; and

WHEREAS, young people are inundated with opportunities and pressures to consume 190 proof alcohol, many times unknowingly; and

WHEREAS, There is an increase in popularity among young people to mix 190 proof grain alcohol with highly caffeinated beverages, gelatin, and "youth drinks" such as Kool-Aid to disguise the danger while increasing the speed and intensity of intoxication; and

WHEREAS, Several states have banned the sale of 190 proof grain alcohol; and

WHEREAS, The Wisconsin State Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse recommends a state-wide ban on 190 proof grain alcohol; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin support education about the dangers of 190 proof grain alcohol, especially with respect to young people; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-Wisconsin supports state legislation to prohibit the sale of 190 proof grain alcohol to the general public.

35. **HUMAN TRAFFICKING 2018**

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of State and UNICEF, trafficking is a modern form of slavery, involving victims who are typically forced, defrauded, or coerced into sexual and/or exploitation; and

WHEREAS, Human trafficking is the world's fastest growing global crime and second largest source of illegal income worldwide exceeded only by drug trafficking. Annually:

- Millions of children are trafficked worldwide;
- 800,000 men, women and children are trafficked across international borders;
- At least 20.9 million people are victims of forced labor worldwide; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs-WI urges its member clubs to:

- Educate members and the public about the seriousness of human trafficking;
- Advocate for the support and protection of victims and the prosecution of exploiters;
- Support law enforcement coordination between countries;
- Encourage mandatory enforcement of existing laws in the United States.