

Resolutions are part of the Washington State PTA (WSPTA) long-term platform and guide our advocacy work from the local to the state level. Resolutions do not expire and remain on the platform until they are amended (when updates are needed) or retired (when the work is complete). When writing a resolution to submit to WSPTA for consideration, keep the following best practices in mind:

Overall Resolution

- Does this topic align with the [WSPTA vision, mission, and purposes \(WSPTA Uniform Bylaws\)](#)?
- Is the topic relevant to the health, safety, well-being, or education of children and youth?
- Is the topic statewide in scope?
- Does the topic supplement, but not conflict with, the WSPTA legislative platform or with National PTA resolutions or position statements?
- Is this topic already on the WSPTA platform (legislative principle, issue, or resolution)? If so, is this topic best as a stand-alone resolution, or should it be an amendment to an existing part of the platform?

Resolution Title

- The WSPTA resolution submission form limit is 60 characters for resolution titles.
- Is the title accurate, clear, descriptive, and concise?

Whereas Clauses

- The WSPTA resolution submission form limit is ten whereas clauses.
- Whereas clauses are the purview of the resolutions committee and shall be edited as needed by the committee.
- Whereas clause best practices:
 - State why the action in the resolved clauses should be taken
 - Should be broad in scope and use clear and concise language with no acronyms
 - Should be brief - shorter is better in a resolution
 - Should all be addressed in a resolved clause and should support the resolved statements
 - As often as possible, each whereas clause should have 1-3 primary source citations (verifiable facts and evidence published no more than six years ago) to back up the statement and support the proposal.

Resolved Clauses

- The WSPTA resolution submission form limit is four resolved clauses.
- Resolved clause best practices:
 - Should be the strongest part of the resolution
 - State what action or position should be taken to solve the problem set up in the whereas clauses
 - Should deal with every issue brought up in the whereas clauses
 - Should include a verb showing what action will follow in each resolved clause

Persuasive Statement

- The WSPTA resolution submission form limit is 250 words for persuasive statements.
- How would the proposal improve the lives of children across Washington state, and why should WSPTA support it?