

# GA PTA Resolution

## Support for Social Host Laws

**WHEREAS**, despite current laws prohibiting underage drinking, youth use alcohol six times more than tobacco and all other illicit drugs combined; and

**WHEREAS**, 40% of underage drinkers received free alcohol from an adult; and

**WHEREAS**, one in 16 underage drinkers received alcohol from a parent or guardian; and

**WHEREAS**, 30.3% of underage drinkers were in their own home and 53.4% were at someone else's home, when they had their last drink; and

**WHEREAS**, one in 12 parents of teens said they allowed the friends of their own teen to drink in their home under their supervision; and

**WHEREAS**, private home parties have repeatedly been the primary source by which underage youth obtain alcohol, where other drug use, risky sexual behaviors, violence and vandalism may often also occur; and

**WHEREAS**, social host policies refer to three distinct types of laws that hold non-commercial individuals responsible for the illegal supply of alcohol consumed or possessed by minors, and/or underage drinking events on property they own, lease, or otherwise control; and

**WHEREAS**, current research establishes social host laws among the most effective forms of public policy in reducing youth binge drinking and drinking and driving. Therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Georgia PTA does hereby recognize the seriousness of adults providing youth access to alcohol and strongly urges parents and adults to stop "social hosting", defined as adults who allow underage drinking to occur on their property and/or supply alcohol consumed or possessed by minor; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, that the Georgia PTA, its districts, councils, and local units will support policy, enforcement and education activities aimed at deterring adults from supplying the alcohol and/or the place needed for underage drinking parties; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, that the Georgia PTA, its districts, councils, and local units are encouraged to work with State and local legislators and law enforcement agencies to advocate for social host laws; criminal and civil state laws, and recovery of response costs through local ordinances.