

RESOLUTIONS

2020-2022 RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

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PROPOSED GFWC RESOLUTIONS IN 2021

The following are proposed resolutions to be presented for consideration at the 2021 GFWC Annual Convention. Proposed additions are noted in **[bold green text and surrounded by brackets]**. Proposed deletions are noted in ~~strikethrough text~~.

ARTS AND CULTURE

PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTION:

[Support of the Arts (Includes 010-010 Funding for the Arts, Convention 1991; and 010-030 Support of the Arts in Schools and Communities, Convention 1983)]

WHEREAS, The arts enhance life and encourage expression, imagination, and creativity, which stimulates learning; and

WHEREAS, Studies have shown that participation in the arts improves confidence, social and learning skills, and test scores, and individuals who participate in art programs are more likely to continue their education and adopt appropriate social behavior; and

WHEREAS, Reduction and elimination of arts programs by community service agencies and schools deprive individuals of the opportunity to develop creative and independent thinking skills; and

WHEREAS, Individuals who suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other physical and mental disorders benefit from the healing process provided by art therapy; and

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs recognizes the need for continued local, state, and federal funding; therefore

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

- **Support the integration of arts programs in the broadest sense into the curricula of all educational programs;**
- **Support the inclusion of art therapy in rehabilitation programs in hospitals, care facilities, and as many aspects of community life as possible;**
- **Urge Congress to support funding for the National Endowment for the Arts to enhance state and local programs that help transform communities into beautiful and resilient places through strategies that incorporate arts and culture;**
- **Advocate for local, state, and federal funding of art programs.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Support of the Arts” above:

010-010 Funding for the Arts (Convention 1991; Amended 1995; Amended 1999; Reviewed 2001; Reviewed 2003; Reviewed 2007; Reviewed 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019)



WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs promotes encouragement of the arts and freedom of expression; and

WHEREAS, The National Endowment for the Arts makes grants available to artists and states in accordance with the NEA charter to take into consideration "general standards of decency and respect for the diverse beliefs and values of the American public"; and

WHEREAS, Reduction and elimination of Arts programs in public schools, including music, performing arts, and technical art, have deprived students of the opportunity to develop creative and independent thinking skills; and

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs recognizes the need for continued state funding; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to advocate for continued allocation of sufficient funds through the National Endowment for the Arts for individual artists and state programs; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to work with state and local agencies to develop additional sources of funding for the arts.

010-030 Support of the Arts in Schools and Communities (Convention 1983; Reaffirmed 1987; Amended 1989; Amended 1997; Reviewed 2001; Amended 2005; Amended 2009; Amended 2017)

WHEREAS, The arts enhance life in all its dimensions and explores the realm of expression, imagination, and creation resulting in new knowledge; and

WHEREAS, Recent studies have shown that participation in the arts improves confidence, social skills, and learning skills, and children who participate in art programs are more likely to continue their education and adopt appropriate social behavior; and

WHEREAS, Art serves as a vehicle for communication not always achieved by presentation of historical and scientific fact; and

WHEREAS, Individuals of all ages who suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other disabilities will benefit from the healing process provided by art therapy; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges that arts in the broadest sense be integrated into curricula of all; and

RESOLVED, That art therapy be incorporated in rehabilitation programs in hospitals, care facilities, and as many aspects of community life as possible; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to encourage promotion and funding for all the arts.

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO REMAIN UNCHANGED:

010-020 Museums

ENVIRONMENT

PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTIONS:

[Conservation of Natural Resources (Includes 011-060 Forest Resources, Convention 1984; 011-220 Wilderness Areas, Convention 1970; and 011-250 Conservation and Preservation of Natural Resources, Convention 2018)]

WHEREAS, Coastal wetlands, public lands, national forests, and wilderness areas provide environmental, economic, educational, scenic, and recreational benefits and should be managed and utilized to their utmost potential; and

WHEREAS, These natural resource areas need to be protected to:

- **Provide habitat to a variety of plant and animal life;**
- **Preserve resources for present and future generations;**
- **Provide environmental protections that prevent contamination, flooding, erosion, and preserve the ecosystem; and**

WHEREAS, These areas should be maintained through forest and wetland resource management to ensure their conservation and sustainability while providing access as necessary for the many beneficial resources found within these areas; therefore

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

- **Advocate for protection, rehabilitation, and restoration of these areas affected by fire, waste, insects, and disease;**
- **Support and encourage participation in conservation education;**
- **Support and encourage actions to safeguard coastal wetlands, public lands, national forests, and wilderness areas for the benefit of all;**
- **Encourage and support proper protection and management, sustainable development, and beautification of these resources;**
- **Support improved land use management and careful consideration of the location of these areas;**
- **Encourage private industry and governmental agencies to work together and encourage research to identify ways to support the proper protection, development, and rehabilitation of our national resources;**
- **Advocate for the enactment and enforcement of legislation for the protection and preservation of these areas.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Conservation of Natural Resources” above:

011-060 Forest Resources (Convention 1984; Amended and Reaffirmed 1988; Amended 1992; Amended 1996; Amended 2000; Amended 2004; Amended 2008; Amended 2012; Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, The United States ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, committing the country to working cooperatively within the international community to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases to 1990 levels; and

WHEREAS, Concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO₂), the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, can be limited by increasing the amount of annual uptake by natural systems such as forest reservoirs; and

WHEREAS, Forests provide protective habitat for a variety of plant and animal life; and

WHEREAS, Forests are managed for a multitude of uses and values; therefore



RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports policies which meet international obligations and adequately protect forest resources through such means as:

- Improved land use management of public and private forests and adjacent areas;
- Adequately funded research programs in all phases of forest management, sustainability, and recycling technologies;
- Waste, fire, insect, and disease control;
- Provisions for forest land management assistance to private landowners;
- Promoting public awareness programs; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to contact legislators to enact and enforce legislation to secure the above stated goals.

011-220 Wilderness Areas (Formerly "Wilderness"; Convention 1970; Amended 1983; Amended 1987; Reviewed 1991; Reviewed 1995; Reviewed 1999; Reviewed 2003; Amended 2004; Amended 2008; Reviewed 2012; Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs supports efforts to preserve natural areas available to all people; and

WHEREAS, The Wilderness Act (Public Law 88-577) provides that the Departments of Agriculture and Interior shall review the following as suitable for preservation as Wilderness Areas and road-less areas: National Forests, Parks, Monuments, and National Wildlife Refuges; and

WHEREAS, Designation of Wilderness Areas by this type of review serves to assure the preservation of Wilderness Areas for future generations; and

WHEREAS, The location of these areas is of primary importance as it relates to highways, recreation areas and other necessary facilities; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges that careful consideration be given to the location of Wilderness Areas; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges the enforcement of laws for the protection and preservation of Wilderness Areas.

011-250 Conservation and Preservation of Natural Resources (Includes 011-020 Conservation of Natural Resources: Education, Convention 1952; 011-150 Preservation and Beautification of Public Lands and National Forests, Convention 1987; 011-180 Support of Coastal Wetland Restoration, Convention 2006, Convention 2018)

WHEREAS, Coastal wetlands, public lands, national forests, and lands managed by the National Park Service are irreplaceable assets and a vital component of a healthy economy; and

WHEREAS, Soil, water, wildlife, and other resources are of national importance, providing economic, scenic, and recreational benefits, and should be managed and utilized to their utmost potential; and

WHEREAS, Although natural gas, oil, coal, and many nonfuel minerals are in public lands, environmental preservation and beautification is of great concern; and

WHEREAS, Deeper understanding of the environment inspires people to take responsibility for its use, preservation, and restoration; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support and encourage participation in conservation education, including renewable and non-renewable natural resources; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges support of sustainable development and management of the multiple resources of coastal wetlands, public lands, national forests, and lands managed by the National Park Service; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges private industry and governmental agencies to work together, and encourages research to find ways to support the proper protection, development, and rehabilitation of our national resources; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges Congress to safeguard coastal waterways, public lands, and national forests for the benefit of all, and to encourage and support proper protection, sustainable development, beautification, and management of these resources.

[Conservation of Wildlife (Includes 011-040 Endangered Species, Convention 1987; and 011-230 Wildlife Conservation, Convention 1987)

WHEREAS, Natural ecosystems and their diversity of wild animals are disappearing at a rapid rate and many species have been so depleted in number or threatened by the loss of habitat that they are in danger of becoming extinct; and

WHEREAS, Wildlife is in danger of possible extinction because of poaching, destructive fishing practices, and the destruction of or damage to terrestrial and marine habitats; and

WHEREAS, Congress has recognized the importance of conservation of such species by enacting the Endangered Species Act; therefore

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

- **Support the reauthorization and implementation of the Endangered Species Act with the appropriation of sufficient funding and the flexibility to recognize personal property rights;**
- **Support the enactment and enforcement of laws for the protection and conservation of wildlife.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Conservation of Wildlife” above:

011-040 Endangered Species (Convention 1987; Amended 1991; Amended 1995; Amended 1999; Reviewed 2003; Reviewed 2007; Reviewed 2011; Amended 2015)

WHEREAS, Many species of wildlife and plants have become extinct; and

WHEREAS, Many more species have been so depleted in numbers or available habitat that they are now in danger of becoming extinct; and

WHEREAS, These species are of aesthetic, ecological, educational, historic, recreational and scientific value; and

WHEREAS, Natural ecosystems and their diversity of wild animals and plants are disappearing at a rapid rate, particularly in the world's rain forests which harbor the greatest diversity of natural life; and

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States has recognized the importance of conservation of such species by enacting the Endangered Species Act, and by encouraging each state to adopt parallel legislation to give protection to species within its own boundaries; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges, without compromise, the reauthorization and implementation of the Endangered Species Act with the appropriation of sufficient funding and the flexibility to recognize personal property rights; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to advocate for the adoption of appropriate state legislation, following the model of the Federal Endangered Species Act, and development of appropriate state funding sources to ensure establishment or enhancement of an effective state conservation effort.

011-230 Wildlife Conservation (Convention 1984; Reviewed 1988; Reviewed 1992; Amended 1996; Amended 1997; Reviewed 2001; Reviewed 2005; Reviewed 2009; Reviewed 2013; Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, The proper methods of land and water management must be practiced to create a favorable environment and habitat for wildlife which are consistent with other purposes to which the land and water are devoted; and

WHEREAS, Wildlife is in danger of inhumane treatment and possible extinction because of grossly unsportsmanlike practices involving aircraft, land and water vehicles; poaching and illegal trappings; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges the enactment and enforcement of laws for the protection and preservation of wildlife; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs encourages the enactment of legislation to ban leg hold traps and the enforcement of existing laws.

[Energy Resources (Includes 011-070 Fuel Conservation, Convention 1975; and 011-160 Renewable Energy, Convention 2007)

WHEREAS, National security, economic wellbeing, and environmental concerns demand a balanced use of renewable energy resources and reduced consumption of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, Renewable energy resources reduce the dependence of the United States on foreign energy, are environmentally sensitive, create economic opportunities for American families, and are necessary in meeting the nation's future energy sustainability; and

WHEREAS, Renewable energy can play an important role in reducing the use of the finite supply of fossil fuels; therefore

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

- Promote and conduct conservation programs that relate to reducing the level of energy consumption;**
- Encourage and support funding for research into greater fuel efficiencies and encourage more fuel-efficient and renewable energy sources;**
- Support legislation to fund and expand renewable energy resources, including a higher national renewable energy standard and decreasing consumption of all non-renewable fuels;**
- Encourage lawmakers, private industry, and consumers to focus public attention on the need for alternative energy and coordinated energy policies;**
- Encourage balance between the interests of proper management of resources, adequate water supplies, protection of wildlife, and the interests of energy production.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Energy Resources” above:

011-070 Fuel Conservation (Formerly “Petroleum Conservation”; Convention 1975; Reaffirmed 1983; Reaffirmed 1987; Amended 1989; Reviewed 1993; Reviewed 1997; Reviewed 2001; Amended 2005; Reviewed 2009; Reviewed 2013; Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, Studies have shown that practices such as ride sharing, adherence to mandatory speed limits, use of mass transit, use of more fuel-efficient vehicles and use of alternative fuel sources can reduce petroleum consumption, air pollution and traffic congestion; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports funding of research for greater fuel efficiency and alternative energy sources; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports stronger fuel efficiency regulations; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs encourages its member clubs to promote fuel efficient practices including: vehicle maintenance, ride sharing and enforcement of maximum speed limits; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports funding for and encouraging the use of mass transit.

011-160 Renewable Energy (Convention 2007; Combined with “Global Energy” and Reaffirmed 2009; Reviewed 2013; Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, Global security and economic well-being demands a balanced use of energy resources; and

WHEREAS, Renewable energy resources reduce the dependence of the United States on foreign energy, are environmentally sensitive, create economic opportunities for America’s farmers and rural communities, and are necessary in meeting the nation’s future energy need; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to promote and conduct conservation programs which relate to reducing the level of energy consumption; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges governments, private industry, and consumers to:

- Focus public attention on the need for adequate energy and the need for coordinated energy policies;
- Encourage balance between the interests of proper management of resources, adequate water supplies, and protection of wildlife, with the interests of energy production; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges governments and private industry to research, explore, and develop efficient and effective energy sources; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports legislation to fund and expand renewable energy resources, including a higher national renewable energy standard and decreasing consumption of all non-renewable fuels.

[Climate Change (Includes 011-090 Global Warming, Convention 1991; and 011-140 Ozone Depletion, Convention 1991)

WHEREAS, Scientific studies indicate that emissions of greenhouse gases are depleting the earth’s stratospheric ozone layer and adding to global warming; and

WHEREAS, The ozone layer acts as a shield against harmful solar radiation that can negatively impact individuals and biological processes in nature; and

WHEREAS, Greenhouse gases contribute to changes in the world's climate resulting in substantially altered weather patterns, increases in sea levels, loss of soil moisture, and dangerous tropical storms, droughts, and floods, adversely affecting agriculture, forests, wetlands, water resources, and coastal areas; therefore

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

- **Encourage actions by lawmakers and private industry worldwide to:**
 - **Reduce emissions of harmful greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide;**
 - **Research and develop economically feasible alternative energy sources;**
 - **Enter into, enforce, and comply with international treaties relating to ozone depletion;**
 - **Promote international cooperation to address the effects of greenhouse gases and changes to the climate;**
 - **Promote efficient use of energy;**
- **Educate individuals about:**
 - **The dangers of greenhouse gases and their effect on ozone depletion and global warming;**
 - **Personal choices that reduce this effect including personal transportation, electricity usage, and waste recycling.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Climate Change” above:

011-090 Global Warming (Convention 1991; Amended 1995; Amended 1998; Reviewed 2002; Amended 2006; Reviewed 2010; Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, Scientific studies indicate that emissions of carbon dioxide, methane, chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), nitrogen oxides and other gases are adding to global warming; and

WHEREAS, This greenhouse effect results in substantially altered rainfall patterns, increases in sea levels, loss of soil moisture and changes in the movement of storms, adversely affecting agriculture, forests, wetlands, water resources and coastal areas; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges action by government and industry worldwide to:

- Reduce emissions of harmful greenhouse gases;
- Research and develop economically feasible alternative energy sources;
- Implement sound agricultural and forestry practices to prevent deforestation and irreversible damage to tropical rain forests;
- Promote international cooperation to address this issue;
- Promote efficient use of energy; and further

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

- Educate themselves and their communities about the dangers of global warming;

- Educate members about the personal choices that can be made to reduce this effect in areas including personal transportation, electrical use, and waste production;
- Share their concerns with legislators.

011-140 Ozone Depletion (Convention 1991; Amended 1995; Amended 1998; Reviewed 2002; Reviewed 2006; Amended 2010; Amended 2014; Amended 2019)

WHEREAS, Many scientific studies indicate that emissions of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and other gases are depleting the earth's stratospheric ozone layer with each chlorine atom able to destroy as many as 100,000 ozone molecules; and

WHEREAS, The ozone layer acts as a shield against harmful solar radiation; and

WHEREAS, A significant reduction of ozone in the upper atmosphere could cause long-term increases in the incidence of skin cancer and cataract worldwide; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges continued action by government and industry worldwide to:

- Reduce emissions of ozone depleting substances;
- Promote international cooperation to address the threats created by ozone depletion;
- Enter into, enforce, and comply with international treaties, relating to ozone depletion; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to educate themselves and their communities about the dangers of ozone depletion and to share their concerns with legislators.

[Disposal of Hazardous and Nuclear Waste (Includes 011-100 Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites, Convention 1985; and 011-130 Nuclear Waste Disposal, Convention 1984)

WHEREAS, Hazardous and nuclear waste generated by commercial, industrial, agricultural, and medical processes are potentially perilous to human health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, Disposal sites are necessary for responsible and proper disposal of waste; and

WHEREAS, Disposal sites and the necessary transportation of waste can impact human life and the environment; therefore

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

- **Legislation and funding providing for the safe, responsible disposal and transportation of hazardous and nuclear waste products;**
- **Continued implementation and education of the community about these laws;**
- **Implementation of processes to reduce the creation and necessary transportation of waste;**
- **Promotion of cooperative action and communication between regulatory agencies and those in waste disposal generation and management;**
- **Legislation for a comprehensive national plan for the transportation and disposal of nuclear waste that accommodates local, state, and tribal concerns.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Disposal of Hazardous and Nuclear Waste” above:

011-100 Hazardous Wastes Disposal Sites (Formerly “Disposal of Hazardous Waste”; Convention 1985; Reaffirmed 1989; Amended 1993; Amended 1997; Reviewed 2001, 2005; Amended 2009; Amended 2013; Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, Hazardous wastes are potentially perilous to human health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, Proper zoning for future waste sites, with buffer zones, is essential to prevent encroachment of residential areas toward waste sites; and

WHEREAS, Waste sites, including brownfields, present a risk to human health and the environment and must be dealt with expeditiously; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges the Congress of the United States to:

- Offer tax incentives to waste generators, transporters, and waste disposal site operators which would result in responsible waste management and a decrease in the creation and transportation of waste;
- Create an atmosphere whereby qualified employees of local, state, and federal regulatory agencies work in a cooperative manner with the waste generators, transporters and waste disposal site operators to minimize the effect of hazardous wastes on human health and environment;
- Encourage the resolution of hazardous wastes conflicts through negotiation where possible;
- Encourage federal and state agencies to develop communication channels for local participation in decision-making about hazardous waste;
- Ban the importation of radioactive nuclear waste, thus avoiding transportation dangers, the gradual but long term build-up of radioactivity at the storage sites, and the eventual depletion of sites to store such waste generated by United States’ nuclear power production; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges funding for safe and responsible clean-up of toxic waste sites and reclamation of contaminated sites.

011-130 Nuclear Waste Disposal (Convention 1984, Reviewed 1988; Reviewed 1992; Reviewed 1996; Reviewed 2000; Amended 2004; Amended 2008; Amended 2012; Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, Nuclear waste materials are a by-product of nuclear power production, industrial processes, medical procedures, and research that must be disposed of safely; and

WHEREAS, Federal laws have established some responsible programs of nuclear waste disposal; and

WHEREAS, spent nuclear rods are stored for extended periods of time in inadequate and unsecured wet storage pools; and

WHEREAS, Transporting nuclear waste to a repository puts human life and the environment at risk and creates targets for terrorists; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports continued implementation of these laws; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports a plan to encase spent nuclear rods in safe solid storage containers; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges the federal government to consult with the states in the high-level waste repository development process, and support state efforts regarding intermediate level and low-level waste site development; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports the development and implementation of a comprehensive national transportation plan that accommodates state, local, and Tribal concerns to the greatest extent possible; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to educate themselves and their communities about nuclear waste disposal.

[Household Waste Management (Includes 011-110 Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), Convention 1988; and 011-190 Waste Management and Recycling, Convention 1997)

WHEREAS, The disposal of household waste, including the disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW), which contains corrosive, toxic, flammable, or reactive ingredients, can:

- **Pollute the environment;**
- **Harm plant and animal life;**
- **Leach into soil and ground water;**
- **Produce toxic gases or spontaneously combust; and**

WHEREAS, The use of green products and recycling conserves natural resources and helps protect the environment by preserving the quality of the environment and reducing the quantity of solid waste; and

WHEREAS, The reduction of packaging used on products for the household decreases the amount of household waste; therefore

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

- **Support the use of green products and substitution of non-hazardous products for household cleaners, yard care, and car maintenance;**
- **Promote public awareness of the dangers of improper disposal of household hazardous waste;**
- **Encourage local and state agencies to provide and promote public participation in recycling, household hazardous waste "drop off" programs, collection days, and permanent collection sites, and to provide educational materials through the classroom, publications, and the media;**
- **Encourage retailers and manufacturers to reduce over-packaging, to promote recycling within their businesses, and to provide information to households on safe disposal and recycling;**
- **Support legislation that encourages continued development of and standards for green products, and encourages efforts to increase appropriate recycling.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution "Household Waste Management" above:

011-110 Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) (Formerly "Disposal of Household Toxic Material"; Convention 1988; Reviewed 1992; Amended 1996; Amended 2000; Amended 2004; Amended 2008; Amended 2012; Reviewed 2016)



WHEREAS, Household hazardous waste is considered a major problem in our nation; and

WHEREAS, Americans generate more than half a million tons of household hazardous waste (household products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable, or reactive ingredients) per year; and

WHEREAS, Improper disposal of household hazardous waste, such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, aerosols, compact fluorescent light bulbs, medications, and pesticides, can pollute the environment and pose a threat to health; and

WHEREAS, Household hazardous waste is often disposed of with regular household refuse, and indiscriminate mixing of these wastes can give off toxic gases, can be flammable and pose a serious threat of injury to trash collectors and landfill operators; and

WHEREAS, Household hazardous waste pollutes the environment by leaching into soil and damaging sensitive ground water; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to promote public awareness of the dangers of improper disposal of household hazardous waste; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support reductions in the amount of household hazardous waste entering the waste stream by:

- Promoting public awareness and safe storage, reduction, reuse, recycling, and disposal are all important tools to safely manage household hazardous waste;
- Encouraging state and local agencies to provide and promote public participation in household hazardous waste "drop off" programs, collection days, and permanent collection sites;
- Promoting the substitution of non-hazardous products for hazardous household cleaning, yard care, and car maintenance products;
- Promoting public awareness about proper disposal to prevent pollution;
- Promoting the distribution and use of educational materials, such as home hazardous product surveys, through classroom education, publications, and the media;
- Encouraging retailers and manufacturers to provide information on proper recycling and/or safe disposal of all household hazardous waste.

011-190 Waste Management and Recycling (Convention 1997; Reviewed 2001; Reviewed 2005; Amended 2009; Reviewed 2013; Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, The use of biodegradable products and recycling conserves the use of natural resources, helps protect and improve land, air and water resources, conserves energy otherwise used in the securing, transporting and manufacturing of products from primary raw materials, and reduces the amount of solid waste; and

WHEREAS, The use of biodegradable products and recycling demonstrates community commitment toward reducing solid waste and preserving the quality of the environment; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports the use of biodegradable products, encourages recycling and discourages over packaging; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports legislation that encourages recycling by individuals, business and government.

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO BE AMENDED:

011-010 Chemicals in the Environment (Formerly “Chemicals in Agriculture”; Convention 1970; Reaffirmed 1984; Reaffirmed 1988; Amended 1989; Amended 1993; Amended 1997; Reviewed 2001; Reviewed 2004; Amended 2008; Reviewed 2012; Amended 2016)

WHEREAS, The use of chemicals has proven of benefit to mankind by increasing the **[increases]** food supply; **[and]** controlling **[controls]** insects; and providing better health conditions; and

[WHEREAS, Chemical controls indiscriminately kill insects and damage habitats; and

WHEREAS, The improper use of chemicals has been proven to cause health and environmental hazards; and

WHEREAS, **[Vital p]** Pollinator species, such as butterflies and bees, and their habitats, are **[declining]** facing declines across the country due to the misuse **[, overuse, and drift from spraying]** of chemicals; and the drift from spraying; and **[therefore]**

WHEREAS, Environmental biotechnology is playing a key role in attaining a healthy balance between protecting the environment and promoting economic development; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs **[urges its member clubs to:]** supports legislation that regulates the proper use of chemicals and upholds a person’s right to know about chemicals used in their community; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges

- [• Inform the public that restoring a portion of the land to native habitats can protect biodiversity and slow species loss, help control pests, enhance pollination, and prevent losses of nutrients and water from soil;**
- Advocate for]** the private and public sectors to continue conducting research on the impact of chemicals on health and the environment;
- [• Educate the public]** and to cooperate in educational campaigns to assure that users have current information on the wise **[prudent]** and safe use of chemicals **[and efforts to conserve, protect, and create pollinator habitats.];** and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges public and private support of environmental biotechnology.

Rationale: To update

011-120 Local Parks and Recreation Areas (Convention 1964; Reaffirmed 1984; Reaffirmed 1988; Reviewed 1992; Amended 1996; Amended 2000; Reviewed 2004; Amended 2008; Reviewed 2012; Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, The growth of population and the development of homes in and around towns and cities adds to overcrowding and the need for **[Many communities face increased demand for outdoor activities to improve quality of life and equitable access to public]** open recreation areas; and

WHEREAS, In many areas the land available for public use is restricted; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to work with their communities to help maintain established **[recreational]** areas, **[increase sustainability and enhance environmental stewardship,]** and **[support the creation of]** to plan and create new parks, playgrounds, and diverse recreational facilities.

Rationale: To simplify and clarify

011-170 Soil [and Water]Conservation ([Formerly “Soil Conservation”;]Convention 1950; Amended 1984; Reaffirmed 1988, Amended 1991; Amended, 1995; Reviewed 1999; Reviewed, 2003; Amended 2007; Reviewed 2011; Amended 2015; Reviewed 2019)

WHEREAS, Progress has been made by many states in promoting and developing a sound soil and water conservation practice; and

WHEREAS, Much remains to be done before all vital natural resources are safeguarded from waste and destruction; and

WHEREAS, There have been tangible and beneficial results from the local operations of active and vigorous soil [and water]conservation districts assisted by the Natural Resources Conservation Service; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs ~~endorses~~ **[urges its member clubs to support:**

- **[P]**periodic inventories by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, to provide complete factual information about our land in cooperation with conservation farm planning done in soil and water conservation districts and as an aid to industry, utilities, wildlife organizations, and **[recreational users;]** ~~all groups which are interested in or make any use of the land; and~~

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs ~~endorses~~

- **[T]**the effective work of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, which gives technical help **[assistance]** in developing and applying farm conservation plans for the locally organized and administered soil [and water]conservation districts and urges the continued expansion of the complete, practical [,] on-the-farm help **[assistance]** needed by farmers and landowners to apply **[implement]** sound conservation measures **[.]**; ~~and further~~

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs ~~urges continuation of support and assistance of the Natural Resources Conservation Service to local soil conservation districts.~~

Rationale: To clarify

011-200 Water Quality and Supply (Convention 1993; Reviewed 1997; Amended 2001; Amended 2005; Amended 2009; Amended 2013; Amended 2017)

~~WHEREAS, A dependable water supply is essential to the world's health and economy; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The proper use of our present water supply, augmented by the restoration to usability of presently polluted water, would provide a supply of usable water that would sustain the earth's population in the foreseeable future; and~~

~~WHEREAS, Pollutants such as household toxic materials, sewage, mine sludge and agricultural chemicals entering our streams, lakes, and underground water supply may contribute to food shortages, disease and severe environmental degradation; and~~

~~WHEREAS, Studies indicate that as the world's population grows, the main resource problem will be water, and failure to address this problem may result in human, fish, and animal health problems; and~~

~~WHEREAS, According to the World Health Organization, contaminated water can transmit diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, dysentery, typhoid, and polio, and is estimated to cause over 500,000 diarrheal deaths each year; and~~

~~WHEREAS, Rehabilitation and preservation of ground water, watersheds, wetlands, and forests are important factors both for water supply and water quality; therefore~~



Resolutions

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports enforcing existing laws protecting water quality and seeks stronger regulations to:~~

- ~~•— Develop a systematic program to prevent groundwater contamination;~~
- ~~•— Prohibit pollution of streams and water supplies;~~
- ~~•— Develop a means whereby individuals and businesses pay their fair share of the cost of maintaining clean water;~~
- ~~•— Maintain and protect our national forests; and~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports laws requiring local communities, landowners, and businesses in violation of pollution laws to clean up their pollution; and~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to promote action within their communities to support scheduled testing and the conservation of their water supplies including ground water, lakes, rivers, coastlines, watersheds, wetlands and forests; and~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges member clubs to support implementation of an overall program which will ensure the necessary supply of water by encouraging research into water filtration and desalination methods and enforcing all relevant laws; and~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support initiatives to upgrade water infrastructure to ensure safe water; and~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to promote and support projects and organizations in the development of clean water sources worldwide; and further~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges the enactment of regulations at all levels that will protect and expand the existing supply of usable water.~~

[WHEREAS, A dependable water supply is essential to the survival of the world's plant and animal life, and domestic, commercial, agricultural, industrial, and environmental needs; and

WHEREAS, Pollutants entering our streams, lakes, and underground water supply may contribute to food shortages, disease, and severe environmental degradation; and

WHEREAS, Rehabilitation and preservation of groundwater, watersheds, wetlands, and forests are important factors both for water supply and water quality; therefore

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

- Conservation and proper management of the world's water supply;**
- Enforcement of laws protecting water quality;**
- Development and implementation of systematic plans to prevent groundwater contamination;**
- Procedures to prohibit and prevent pollution of streams and water supplies, and require local communities, landlords, and businesses in violation of pollution laws to remediate their pollution;**
- Development of a means for individuals and businesses to pay their fair share of the cost of maintaining clean water supply;**
- Testing and conservation of water supplies including groundwater, rivers, coastlines, watersheds, wetlands, and forests;**



Resolutions

- **Implementation of an overall program to ensure the necessary supply of water by encouraging research into water filtration and desalination methods;**
- **Enactment of legislation and enforcement of regulations at all levels to protect and expand the existing supply of clean water.]**

Rationale: To update

011-240 Protection of Oceans (Convention 2011; Reviewed 2015; Amended 2019)

WHEREAS, Oceans:

- ~~—~~ **C**ontain approximately 97% of the earth’s water supply, generate approximately 50% of the earth’s oxygen, and provide almost 20% of the animal protein humans eat; **[,]**
- ~~—~~ **P**rovide vital natural resources; **[,]**
- ~~—~~ **A**re a frontier for scientific exploration; **[, and]**
- ~~—~~ **A**re critical to the world economy and national security; and

WHEREAS, ~~Uptake of e~~ **C**arbon dioxide from the atmosphere has been shown to cause ocean acidification **[,]** which ~~imperils the base of the food web and will if unchecked~~ **[may]** cause serious biological and economic harm to commercial fisheries; and

WHEREAS, ~~The world’s oceans and populations have been and continue to be degraded as a result of human activity, including pollution, the use of destructive fishing practices, and the destruction or damage of marine habitats resulting from offshore drilling; and~~

WHEREAS, Only 13% of the world’s ocean waters constitute marine wilderness, ~~(meaning they have suffered no human disturbance)~~ and the preservation and study of such areas is necessary to understand how to restore **[the restoration of]** degraded marine ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, ~~Government agencies and p~~ **P**rograms dealing with ocean resources, preservation, and restoration are ~~poorly coordinated and~~ do not reflect a unified approach towards preserving and restoring the oceans; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs **[urges its member clubs to support:**

- **]** ~~Supports t~~ **[T]**he development of an international ocean policy that unifies and coordinates ocean preservation and restoration efforts; ~~and further~~
- **[Policy decisions to ensure the conservation and long-term sustainability of marine resources;]**

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs ~~urges its member clubs to support~~

- **[E**fforts to **[manage fisheries,]** protect **[marine habitats], [and]** maintain; and restore **[marine]** ecosystems; **[;**
- **Efforts by the State Department and US Agency for International Development to address global problems of ocean-borne plastic waste and other pollution debris, including plastic waste cleanup, waste management, and recycling.]**

Rationale: To simplify and clarify

011-260 Management of Outer Space (Formerly “Control of Outer Space” **[;]** Convention 1959; Amended 1983; Reviewed 1987; Reviewed 1991; Amended 1995; Reviewed 1999; 2003; Amended 2007; Reviewed 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019; Reassigned 2020 International Outreach 014-100)

WHEREAS, As of October 2018, 107 countries are parties to the Outer Space Treaty, **[The United Nations Treaties and Principles on Outer Space]** while another 23 have signed the treaty but have not completed ratification, which:

- Limits use of the moon and other celestial bodies exclusively to peaceful purposes and prohibits the establishment of military bases, installations, or fortifications; the testing of weapons; or the conduct of military maneuvers;
- Prohibits the placement of nuclear or other weapons of mass destruction on any celestial body or manmade structure in outer space;
- Provides that any exploration or use of outer space shall be in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations; therefore **[and**

WHEREAS, The use of outer space for research and commercial development is unregulated; therefore]

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support **[:]** matters relating to protection and preservation of the space environment, especially those potentially affecting the earth’s environment.

- [• Support the United Nations’ efforts to prohibit the militarization of outer space;**
- Encourage responsible and safe use of outer space to achieve advances in space technology and the emerging commercial development in outer space.]**

Rationale: To broaden

EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES

PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTIONS:

[Education of Children Raised in Foster Care

WHEREAS, More than 20,000 children in the United States foster care system annually reach the age of 18 and become ineligible for state-provided care; and

WHEREAS, Studies show that:

- Approximately 40% of children in foster care have educational difficulties;**
- Children in foster care are three times more likely to drop out of high school when compared to other low-income children;**
- Only 50% of children in foster care obtain a high school diploma; therefore**

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges it member clubs to:

- Advocate for legislation that allows children in foster care the option of remaining in the foster care system until they either obtain a high school diploma or reach the age at which they are no longer entitled to a free public education;**
- Collaborate with local school districts and foster care agencies to provide children raised in foster care with access to scholarships to complete a general equivalency diploma (GED) program and obtain post-secondary education, education training vouchers, academic success coaching, personal mentoring, and student care packages.]**

Recommended by GFWC Montana



[Education (Includes 012-010 Basic Education, Convention 1990; and 012-070 Humanities Education, Convention 1985)]

WHEREAS, Many United States students are not prepared academically to compete in a global society; and

WHEREAS, Solutions to national educational deficiencies must be addressed by local school districts, parents, and the community together for students to achieve their academic goals; and

WHEREAS, The needs of all students, including those with learning, social, mental, and physical disabilities, must be integrated into educational programs at all levels; and

WHEREAS, A humanities education includes disciplines that study aspects of human society and culture, and contains content and methods that encourage creativity, curiosity, and empathy, which foster good writing and critical thinking skills; and

WHEREAS, A proficiency in speaking and reading foreign languages and a knowledge of the history and culture of other nations are necessary for understanding and participation in world affairs; therefore

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

- **Support strong educational programs with challenging academic curricula for all students, including those with learning, social, mental, and physical disabilities;**
- **Encourage students to study science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), humanities, and foreign languages;**
- **Support programs that encourage high school drop-outs to pursue a general equivalency diploma (GED);**
- **Establish scholarships for students to participate in GED programs;**
- **Encourage parents to be actively involved in their children's academic lives;**
- **Support funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Education” above:

012-010 Basic Education (Convention 1990; Amended 1992; Amended 1996; Amended 2000; Amended 2003; Amended 2007; Amended 2011; Amended 2015)

WHEREAS, Many United States students are not prepared academically to compete in a global society; and

WHEREAS, Solutions to our educational problems must be addressed; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs, realizing that meeting children's basic needs must begin at an early age and start in the home, urges its member clubs to:

- **Encourage parents to work in partnership with schools and teachers to assure that students come to school ready, willing, and able to learn;**
- **Encourage parents to be actively involved in their children's academic lives;**
- **Establish strong early childhood educational programs with challenging academic curricula for all students;**

- Establish and participate in tutoring programs and mentoring programs linking volunteers, business representatives or professionals with individual students;
- Encourage respect, tolerance, and cooperation among the students, parents and teachers;
- Recognize teachers who are highly qualified, well prepared and dedicated, and who display excellence in developing our youth;
- Encourage more students to study advanced mathematics, science and foreign languages to enable them to be highly competent and competitive in the global society;
- Work for equality of education and high standards for all students;
- Establish or participate as tutors in programs that encourage high school drop-outs to pursue a general equivalency diploma (GED) to provide them with wider career opportunities;
- Establish scholarships for students of GED classes in need of funding for testing;
- Support efforts at the federal, state and local levels to reduce student-teacher ratio for the purpose of improving academic achievement.

012-070 Humanities Education (Convention 1985; Amended and Reaffirmed 1989; Amended 1993; Amended 1997; Reviewed 2001; Reviewed 2005; Amended 2009; Amended 2013; Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, The primary purpose of education should be to enlarge the mind; and

WHEREAS, According to the 1965 National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act “The term ‘humanities’ includes, but is not limited to, the study of the following: language, both modern and classical, linguistics, literature, history, jurisprudence, philosophy, archaeology, comparative religion, ethics, the history, criticism and theory of the arts; those aspects of social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life”; and

WHEREAS, A proficiency in speaking and reading foreign languages and a knowledge of the history and culture of other major nations are a basic in building greater understanding of and participation in world affairs; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs encourages and promotes the pursuit of education in the humanities; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports the National Endowment for the Humanities, including funding.

[Community Colleges and Vocational/Technical Education Institutions (Includes 012-020 Community Colleges and Vocational/Technical Education Institutions, Convention 1964; and 012-130 Youth Employment, Convention 1962)

WHEREAS, Community colleges and vocational/technical education institutions offer quality education, employment training, personal enrichment opportunities, and flexible scheduling at a lower cost than traditional four-year colleges; and

WHEREAS, Almost half of all undergraduates in the United States attend community colleges; and

WHEREAS, Vocational/technical education is multifaceted focusing around a wide variety of careers; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- **Community colleges and vocational/technical education institutions;**
- **Local, state, and federal funding for financial assistance for community college and vocational/technical education students;**
- **Scholarships for students enrolled in community college or vocational/technical education programs.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Community Colleges and Vocational/Technical Education Institutions” above:

012-020 Community Colleges, Vocational/Technical Education Institutions (Formerly "Two-Year Community Colleges, Vocational and Technical Education Institutions"; Convention 1964; Amended 1981; Reaffirmed 1986; Amended 1990; Amended 1994; Amended 1998; Reviewed 2002; Amended 2006; Amended 2010; Amended 2014; Reviewed 2018)

WHEREAS, Community colleges, vocational, and technical education institutions offer education, employment training and personal enrichment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Nearly half of all undergraduates in the United States attend community colleges; and

WHEREAS, Community colleges offer quality education opportunities with flexible scheduling at a lower cost than traditional four-year schools; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support and promote these institutions; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support programs which provide financial assistance and/or incentives for enrollment.

012-130 Youth Employment (Convention 1962; Amended and Reaffirmed 1984; Reaffirmed 1988; Amended 1992; Amended 1996; Reviewed 2000; Amended 2003; Amended 2007; Reviewed 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019)

WHEREAS, Youth ages 14-26 who are not in school or working represent untapped potential; and

WHEREAS, Career and technical education (CTE), has the potential to improve students’ post-school employment outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that workers who are unemployed as youth ages 14-26 earn lower wages for many years following period of unemployment due to forgone work experience and missed opportunities to develop skills; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs, an organization of 80,000 concerned women in Convention assembled in June 2019, urges the United States Congress to pass the Education and Workforce Innovation Act that would:

- Support Programs that offer comprehensive services, including vocational training and guidance to both in-school and out-of-school youth to encourage schooling and employment;
- Request federal and state governments to promote programs that provide direct skills and job training for young people to enter and advance in high-growth, emerging and in-demand industries;



- Support programs that create partnerships among local school districts, community colleges, apprentice program and joint-labor management training programs;
- Urge employment services, community organizations, media, schools and businesses to provide local listings of age appropriate, safe, and healthful work opportunities for young people, especially during vacation periods; and further

RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the following: President of the United States of America Donald Trump; Vice President of the United States of America Michael Pence; Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi; House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy; Chairman of the House Education in the Workforce Committee Bobby Scott; Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development Susan Davis; Representative Ron Kind, sponsor of the Education and Workforce Innovation Act; Secretary of Department of Education Betsy DeVos; Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross; National PTA President Jim Accomando.

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO BE AMENDED:

012-030 Educational [Sex and Gender] Equity [in Education]([Formerly “Educational Equity”;]Convention 1993; Reviewed 1997; Reviewed 2001; Amended 2004; Amended 2009; Amended 2013; Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 guarantees no person in the U.S. shall on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under, any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance; and

~~WHEREAS, Research has provided a comprehensive assessment of the status of girls in school; and~~

WHEREAS, Research indicates that ~~girls~~ **[students]** are being negatively affected ~~affected~~ **[impacted]** in ~~school~~ **[educational programs]** by ~~sex and]~~ **[sex and]** gender role stereotyping; and

WHEREAS, A continued interest in education reform has grown out of an urgency to achieve excellence in education in order to remain competitive in the global marketplace; therefore

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports expanded accountability in reporting all Title IX programs to the Department of Education including but not limited to athletics; and further~~

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

[• Support expanded accountability in reporting all Title IX programs to the Department of Education;]

- ~~Institute~~ **[Support]** programs for **[all persons involved with the educational process, especially]** teachers and counselors, to learn effective gender-~~fair~~ **[neutral teaching and counseling methods]** ~~and counseling priorities;~~
- Urge ~~local~~ school districts to review curricula and textbooks ~~for~~ **[to eliminate]** gender-~~role~~ **[identity]** stereotyping;
- Undertake other activities that will make education equity a reality for all students.

Rationale: To update

012-050 English, Official U.S.A. Language [in the United States]([Formerly “English, Official Language U.S.A.”;]Convention 1986; Amended and Reaffirmed 1989; Reviewed 1993; Reviewed 1997; Reviewed 2001; Reviewed 2005; Amended 2009; Reviewed 2013; Amended 2017; Amended 2018)



WHEREAS, The United States of America has **[always]** been **[a multilingual nation,]** 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, English is a world **[global]** language which we share **[shared]** with many other nations and is the most widely used medium of international communication; and

WHEREAS, **[Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 is in place to protect the rights of individuals who do not speak fluent]** English **[, as]** is the national language of the United States of America by custom; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support **[language]** programs for non-English speakers; ~~[.] and further~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its U.S. member clubs to support the adoption of legislation that establishes English as the official language of the United States of America.~~

Rationale: To update

012-080 Libraries (Convention 1948; Reaffirmed 1978; Reaffirmed 1985; Amended and Reaffirmed 1989; Reviewed 1993; Amended 1996; Amended 2000; Amended 2003; Amended 2007; Amended 2011; Amended 2015)

WHEREAS, Libraries are the preeminent self-help community asset, providing traditional and electronic access to information for **[everyone, especially]** poor, minority, immigrant, and rural populations **[who may have limited resources at home];** and

WHEREAS, Libraries are information resource centers for education, employment, and recreation ~~servi~~**[and serve]** the entire community; and

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs ~~having~~**[was]** been responsible for **[credited with]** the founding **[establishment]** of approximately 75 percent of the nation's **[public]** libraries by 1933, ~~recognizes the contribution libraries have made and should continue to make to the national welfare;~~ and

WHEREAS, There is a strong and significant relationship between children's services and public libraries and early reading success at school; and

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs, ~~having exceeded its commitment made at the President's Summit for America's Future to contribute \$12.5 million in books and materials to public school libraries and public libraries to help "turn the tide for America's youth";~~ and

WHEREAS, the General Federation of Women's Clubs established The GFWC Disaster Relief - Library Replenishment Fund to assist GFWC communities affected by manmade and natural disasters in restocking the collections of community and public school libraries; therefore

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports adequate library funding at all levels; and further~~

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to **[support]:**

~~—Continue support of existing libraries;~~

[• Existing libraries and library programs;]

- ~~• Encourage t~~**[T]**he extension **[expansion]** of library services **[and programs]** to all **[underserved]** areas;
- ~~• Encourage communities to make full and responsible~~ **[U]**se of their library facilities and services;



•—Support and encourage enforcement of confidentiality laws;

[• Local, state, and federal funding of libraries;]

• Contribute To-The GFWC Disaster Relief - Library Replenishment Fund;[.]

Rationale: To update

012-090 Lifelong Learning (Convention 1989; Amended 1993; Amended 1997; Reviewed 2001; Reviewed 2004; Reviewed 2008; Reviewed 2012; Amended 2016)

~~WHEREAS, Since the inception of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the educational needs of women have been promoted and enhanced through educational forums, study groups, and seminars; therefore~~

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

- ~~•—Sponsor discussion groups and forums, both among their members and in their communities, placing an emphasis on subjects of local, national, and international importance, as well as personal and club growth;~~
- ~~•—Participate in Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO), the GFWC structured reading program;~~
- ~~•—Encourage all adults to further their education through programs available locally, institutes of higher learning, tours, and online.~~

[WHEREAS, The educational needs of individuals do not end when the formal education process has ended; and

WHEREAS, Lifelong learning is the on-going voluntary and self-motivated pursuit of knowledge for either personal or professional purposes; and

WHEREAS, Lifelong learning enhances skills, knowledge, and employability; therefore

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

- Sponsor discussion groups and forums in their communities;**
- Support adult educational programs in their communities;**
- Encourage all adults to participate in lifelong learning programs.]**

Rationale: To strengthen

012-100 Literacy (Convention 1983; Reaffirmed 1987; Amended and Reaffirmed 1988; Amended and Reaffirmed 1989; Amended 1993; Amended 1997; Reviewed 2001; Amended 2005; Amended 2009; Reviewed 2013; Amended 2017)

~~WHEREAS, Too many adults and job seekers in the United States suffer from functional illiteracy, and many school children cannot read or write well enough to make progress in school; and~~

~~WHEREAS, There has been increased public awareness of the problem of adult illiteracy, and teaching resources are not meeting demand; therefore~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports legislation and increased funding for literacy services; and further~~

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

- Support curriculum within teacher certification programs that include methods to teach reading skills;
- Support increased school funding to include periodic evaluation of reading proficiency, school-wide adolescent literacy programs, as well as remedial special services and projects in improved reading comprehension for all grade levels;
- Support adult literacy programs in their communities;
- Volunteer with local literacy groups or libraries to teach children and/or adults with literacy problems;
- Encourage corporate awareness of literacy problems and support of literacy programs.

[WHEREAS, Many adults suffer from functional illiteracy and cannot read or write well enough to take advantage of educational and occupational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Educational resources are not meeting the needs of literacy programs; therefore

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

- **Advocate for the inclusion of basic reading skills training in all teacher certification programs;**
- **Support literacy programs in their communities and volunteer to teach children and adults to read and write;**
- **Encourage private-sector awareness, support, and funding of literacy programs;**
- **Support local, state, and federal funding of literacy programs.]**

Rationale: To strengthen

012-120 Digital Media in Education (Convention 1953; Amended and Reaffirmed 1984; Reaffirmed 1988; Amended 1991; Amended 1995; Amended 1999; Reviewed 2002; Reviewed 2006; Amended 2010; Amended 2014; Reviewed 2018)

~~WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs is aware of the ever-increasing impact of digital media on the cultural pattern of the United States; recognizes its great educational value; and desires that the greatest possible constructive use be made of this technology; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs recognizes both the promises and challenges presented by technological advancements in this media; therefore~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to work cooperatively with educational and governmental institutions in providing quality education through digital media; and~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports the continued development of educational programming, and for state, local, and private financing of programs of merit; and further~~

~~RESOLVED, That the purpose of digital media in education be maintained and subject to commercial advertising limits imposed by current laws and regulations.~~

[WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs recognizes:

- **The impact of digital media, including its importance in educational programs;**
- **Both the successes and challenges presented by technological advancements;**
- **The staggering impact of pandemic and other catastrophic events on global education resulting in the delivery of education programs remotely via digital platforms;**



- **The vast majority of today’s careers require at least some digital media skills; therefore**

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

- **Work with educational and governmental institutions to provide quality education through digital media, including ensuring access to necessary technology;**
- **Support the continued development of digital educational programs;**
- **Ensure that students possess the necessary skills to utilize the digital media programing available to them;**
- **Support local, state, federal, and private funding of digital educational programs.]**

Rationale: To update

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO BE RESCINDED:

012-110 Quality Education (Formerly “Quality Public Education”; Convention 1978; Reaffirmed 1984; Reaffirmed 1988; Amended 1992; Amended 1996; Amended 1997; Reviewed 2001; Amended 2005; Reviewed 2008; Reviewed 2012; Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, Access to quality education is a right of all children; and

WHEREAS, The school system is responsible for educating students to reach their fullest potential in order to be functioning members of society and should, in cooperation with the community, be accountable for providing the climate in which this can be achieved; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports national education goals and encourages allocation of federal funds to enable state and localities to reach these goals; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports the following to achieve a quality education program:

- Each state implements basic requirements for receiving a high school diploma including proficiency criteria as well as an ongoing program of evaluation in reading, writing and mathematics;
- School boards, administrators, teachers and parents work together using non- confrontational methods to resolve disputes; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges that education programs be established for all students regardless of their abilities or special needs so that they may reach their full potential.

Rationale: Accomplished

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTIONS:

[Support for Emergency Services Personnel

WHEREAS, Emergency first responders such as police officers, fire and rescue service personnel, EMTs, and paramedics are the first ones on the scene when a traumatic event happens; and

WHEREAS, Emergency first responders, especially volunteers, incur significant costs to purchase and/or pay for equipment, training, and educational classes in order to be properly trained to respond to emergencies; and



WHEREAS, The increasing mental health problems in the United States require first responders to identify and assist persons undergoing a mental health crisis when it is difficult to quickly interpret the situation; and

WHEREAS, According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 30% of first responders suffer from depression, anxiety, psychological-emotional disorders, and post-traumatic stress as a result of their service that may lead to mental health issues, substance abuse, divorce, and/or suicide; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- **Legislation to establish and maintain crisis intervention services for first responders;**
- **Local, state, and federal funding for equipment, training, and educational courses for first responders;**
- **Legislation that establishes specialized training for first responders on how to identify and deescalate situations involving an individual suffering a mental health crisis.]**

Recommended by New Jersey State Federation of Women’s Clubs of GFWC

[Food, Drug, Cosmetic, and Medical Product Regulation and Safety (Includes 013-130 Food, Drug, Cosmetics, and Medical Products Regulation, Convention 1989; and 013-140 Food Safety, Convention 2005)

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women’s Clubs was instrumental in the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act, which led to the establishment of the Food and Drug Administration to protect the health and safety of consumers; and

WHEREAS, The Food and Drug Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture regulate items including food, drugs, cosmetics, and medical devices, and guard against foodborne illnesses; and

WHEREAS, There is ongoing demand for consumer protection from serious illness or health complications; therefore

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

- **Advocate for funding to accelerate research and development to ensure availability of new medical treatments and to provide protection to consumers;**
- **Support strengthening the consumer protection regulations of the Food and Drug Administration and the Food Safety Modernization Act;**
- **Support public health and safety laws.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Food, Drug, Cosmetic, and Medical Product Regulation and Safety” above:

013-130 Food, Drug, Cosmetics and Medical Products Regulation (Formerly “Food and Drug Regulation”; Convention 1989; Reviewed 1993; Reviewed 1997; Amended 2001; Reviewed 2005; Amended 2009; Amended 2013; Amended 2017)

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women’s Clubs was instrumental in helping to establish the Food and Drug Administration to protect the health and safety of consumers by regulating items including food, drugs,

health care products, cosmetics, personal care products, and household and medical devices; and

WHEREAS, The Pure Food and Drug Act and related laws have proved valuable to consumers in safeguarding their health by protecting them against the adulterating and misbranding of products; and

WHEREAS, There are deficiencies in the ability of the Food and Drug Administration to regulate the ingredients in cosmetics and personal care products that may lead to serious illness or health complications; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs endorses the principles of the Food and Drug Administration and public health and safety laws; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges Congress to provide funding to accelerate research efforts and make new therapies available to more patients, while improving the ability to prevent and detect disease at an early stage; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports strengthening consumer protection regulations including the ability of the Food and Drug Administration to regulate the ingredients in cosmetics, personal care products, and products such as sunscreen and insect repellent.

013-140 Food Safety (Convention 2005; Reviewed 2009; Amended 2013; Amended 2017)

WHEREAS, According to the United States General Accountability Office, food and food products may be contaminated with microbial pathogens that cause food borne illnesses and death; and

WHEREAS, Weaknesses in inspection programs and food recall regulations heighten the risk that unsafe food will remain in the food supply and ultimately be consumed; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports funding of the United States Department of Agriculture and Food and Drug Administration food safety programs that are mandated by the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports additional consumer protection regulations for food safety.

[Cancer (Includes 013-170 Gynecologic Cancer, Convention 2006; and 013-600 Cancer Convention 2011)

WHEREAS, Cancer is a complex group of diseases with multiple causes; and

WHEREAS, According to the National Cancer Institute more than 1.8 million people develop cancer each year and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates the annual cost of treatment exceeds \$174 billion; and

WHEREAS, Approximately half of all cancer deaths are linked to modifiable lifestyle factors; and

WHEREAS, Education about risk factors, symptoms, and diagnostic tools available to screen for cancer reduces late-stage diagnoses and mortality; therefore

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

- **Educational awareness campaigns that target modifiable risk factors and the availability of screening and treatment options;**
- **Funding for the research and development of prevention strategies, comprehensive screening methods, treatment options, and cures.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Cancer” above:

013-170 Gynecologic Cancer (Convention 2006; Reviewed 2014; Amended 2018)

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control reports that the five main types of gynecologic cancer are cervical, ovarian, uterine, vaginal, and vulvar; and

WHEREAS, Human Papillomavirus (HPV) may be the cause of gynecological cancer and the HPV vaccine is readily available for teenagers; and

WHEREAS, Prevention, early detection, and appropriate treatment of gynecologic cancers are key in lowering mortality rates; and

WHEREAS, Continuous education about risk factors, symptoms, and diagnostic tools available to screen for these factors reduces late stage diagnoses and mortality; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support, participate in, and sponsor awareness campaigns; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports prevention, comprehensive screening, and treatment programs for gynecologic cancer; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports funding for research for the continued development of prevention strategies, screening methods, treatments, and cures.

013-600 Cancer (Convention 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019)

WHEREAS, Cancer is a complex group of diseases with multiple causes including:

- Certain infections;
- Genetic factors;
- Sun and UV exposure;
- Environmental exposures to certain chemicals and radiation;
- Lifestyle choices such as tobacco use, diet, and physical inactivity; and

WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society and the National Institutes of Health estimate the annual costs of cancer exceed hundreds of billions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, more than one million people develop cancer each year, and over half of all cancer deaths could be prevented through education, healthy lifestyle choices, and early detection; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support, participate in, and sponsor educational campaigns that target risk factors; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support legislation that combats cancer and its risk factors; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports research funding for the continued development of screening methods, treatments, and cures.



[Preventable Disease (Includes 013-210 Immunization for Prevention of Childhood Diseases, Convention 1992; 013-400 Prevention, Detection, Control and Cure of Diseases and Illnesses, Convention 1977; and 013-550 Tuberculosis Prevention, Convention 1992)

WHEREAS, The incidence of disease is costly to society; and

WHEREAS, Preventable diseases have surged due to the lack of vaccinations, resulting in epidemics and needless loss of life; therefore

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

- **Support legislation mandating medical insurance companies cover consumers with pre-existing conditions;**
- **Promote and support education and research on prevention, control, and cure of disease, including the necessity and safety of immunizations;**
- **Support the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations for vaccinations;**
- **Support the World Health Organization's Global Vaccine Action Plan;**
- **Support local, state, and federal health departments, health care providers, and health organizations in the early detection and response to outbreaks, treatment, and prevention of disease.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution "Preventable Disease" above:

013-210 Immunization for Prevention of Childhood Diseases (Convention 1992, Reviewed 1996; Reviewed 2000; Amended 2003; Amended 2007; Amended 2017)

WHEREAS, Preventable childhood diseases which largely disappeared during the 1970s have resurged, despite advances in vaccine technology, thus resulting in epidemics and needless loss of life; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges implementation of the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) recommendations that a series of vaccinations for the most potentially crippling and killing childhood diseases as defined by the CDC be administered at the recommended age; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges health care providers to educate parents on the necessity for timely immunizations.

013-400 Prevention, Detection, Control and Cure of Diseases and Illnesses (Formerly "Prevention, Control and Cure of Diseases"; Convention 1977; Reaffirmed 1981; Amended and Reaffirmed 1986; Amended 1990; Amended 1994 Amended 1998; Amended 2002; Amended 2006; Reviewed 2014; Reviewed 2018)

WHEREAS, The incidence of disease and illness is costly to society in lives as well as dollars and the prevention, detection, control and cure of disease and illness are of great value; therefore

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

- Promote and support education and research on prevention, control, and cure of diseases and illnesses;
- Support state and local health departments in the development of new systems and the use of diagnostic information for the early detection, treatment or prevention of high- profile disease and illness outbreaks;
- Encourage insurance companies and health care organizations to cover the costs of the needed measures to promote prevention, detection, control, and cure of diseases and illnesses.

013-550 Tuberculosis Prevention (Convention 1992; Reviewed 1996; Reviewed 2000; Amended 2003; Amended 2007; Amended 2011; Reviewed 2015; Amended 2019)

WHEREAS, Tuberculosis is:

- A contagious disease with millions infected annually;
- One of the top ten causes of death in the world and represents a public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization’s “Stop TB” Partnership has released a Roadmap to scale up the engagement of public and private health care providers to end tuberculosis; and

WHEREAS, The United Nations General Assembly is committed to ensuring individuals receive the necessary care and to providing preventative treatment to protect others from developing tuberculosis; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs advocates support for:

- The World Health Organization’s program “Stop TB” program;
- Increased testing;
- Funding for medical care, training of personnel, and world-wide education about tuberculosis to reduce its threat.

[Long-Term Care (Includes 013-270 Long-Term Care, Convention 1989; and 013-430 Quality Long-Term Care, Convention 1988)

WHEREAS, The aging population coupled with longer life expectancy is creating an increased demand for a full range of long-term care services, including skilled nursing and assisted-living services; and

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, an individual turning age 65 has an almost 70% chance of needing long-term care services; and

WHEREAS, The cost of long-term care services is rarely covered by Medicare and personal financial resources must be depleted to be eligible for skilled nursing services through the Medicaid program; and

WHEREAS, The limited availability of public funding sources for assisted-living services puts patients at risk for homelessness; therefore

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

- **Public awareness campaigns on the need for early and responsible financial planning, long-term care insurance, and the limitations of the Medicare and Medicaid programs;**
- **Access to quality long-term care, including assistance with activities of daily living, adult day programs, home medical and nursing care, skilled nursing and assisted-living facilities, and specialized memory care units;**
- **Legislation increasing the eligible tax deduction for long-term care insurance premiums.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Long-Term Care” above:

013-270 Long-Term Care (Convention 1989; Amended 1991; Amended 1995; Amended 1999; Amended 2002; Reviewed 2006; Amended 2010; Reviewed 2014; Amended 2018)



WHEREAS, The aging population coupled with longer life expectancy is creating an increased demand for a full range of long-term care services to supplement the care provided by family members; and

WHEREAS, An individual turning age 65 has an almost 70% chance of needing long-term care services in their remaining years according to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and

WHEREAS, Early and responsible planning is an essential component of financial security, including planning for additional resources in the event of no longer being able to care for oneself; and

WHEREAS, The cost of long-term care, particularly in a nursing home or other institution, can be prohibitive and deplete the financial resources of most families; and

WHEREAS, In most cases the cost of long-term care is not covered by comprehensive major medical insurance policies or by the federal government through its Medicare program; and

WHEREAS, The federal-state funded Medicaid program covers the cost of nursing homes only after a family has exhausted most of its personal financial resources; therefore

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

- Educate the public about the need for early and responsible financial planning, long-term care insurance and the limitations of Medicare and Medicaid programs;
- Support legislation that increases the eligible premium tax deduction for long term care insurance;
- Encourage the development of programs that support access to quality institutional and community-based long-term care services, including home medical and nursing care, home health aides and homemaker services, assisted living facilities and adult day care services.

013-430 Quality Long-Term Care (Formerly "Quality Nursing Home Care"; Convention 1988; Amended 1992; Amended 1996; Amended 2000; Amended 2004; Amended 2008; Amended 2012; Amended 2016)

WHEREAS, All patients' rights are protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Nursing Home Reform Act; and

WHEREAS, Each year, hundreds of thousands of institutionalized elderly residents are abused and severely neglected; and

WHEREAS, Evidence of physical and emotional abuse, and of substandard health care in nursing homes is a concern; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports uniformed enforcement of legislation that sets standards for quality care, guarantees the rights of residents and enforces compliance with the law; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to clubs to volunteer at long term care facilities and to work with state and local officials, long term care ombudsmen, advocates, and facility administrators to ensure quality care and compliance with laws; and further

RESOLVED, That current law be amended to require:

- Any person who has reasonable cause to suspect abuse or exploitation of an institutionalized elderly person be mandated to immediately report the information to law enforcement;
- All staff with direct patient contact at adult facilities shall receive training upon hire and annually thereafter, provided by the facility, on the signs of elder abuse and the procedures for reporting suspected cases. This training shall be offered to the families of patients.

[Nutrition and Obesity (Includes 013-340 Nutrition, Convention 1976; 012-620 Obesity Prevention, Convention 2011; and 012-660 Reducing Obesity in Youth, Convention 2019)

WHEREAS, Nutrition is a critical factor in both the prevention of and recovery from disease, illness, and injury; and

WHEREAS, Overweight adults and children are at increased risk of multiple health problems and chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS, Obesity has reached epidemic numbers placing a burden on the healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, Research has shown that early childhood is an important time for developing dietary and physical activity behaviors that support health and may help prevent obesity, and

WHEREAS, Healthy eating can improve a child's learning ability, academic performance, and mental, social, and physical wellbeing; therefore

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

- **Support a national strategy to reduce obesity;**
- **Promote development and implementation of programs on healthy nutritional habits and fitness counseling;**
- **Encourage the restaurant industry and school nutrition programs to provide reasonable food and beverage portions to enhance overall healthy living and improved quality of life;**
- **Support the inclusion of prevention, management, and reduction of obesity in medical, nursing, and allied health training programs.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Nutrition and Obesity” above:

013-340 Nutrition (Convention 1976; Amended and Reaffirmed 1984; Reaffirmed 1988; Amended 1990; Amended 1994; Reviewed 1998; Amended 2002; Amended 2006; Amended 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019)

WHEREAS, Nutrition is a critical factor in both the prevention of and recovery from disease, illness, and injury; and

WHEREAS, The National Center for Health Statistics reports that overweight adults and children are at increased risk of multiple health problems; and

WHEREAS, Health care programs should educate providers and patients on good nutrition; therefore

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

- **Support the inclusion of good nutrition in the planning, organization, and implementation of health care programs;**
- **Encourage the food industry to provide reasonable food and beverage portions;**
- **Support the establishment of food cooperatives in areas with underserved populations;**
- **Promote programs on healthy and nutritional habits.**

013-620 Obesity Prevention (Convention 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019)

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization estimates that today more than half of all adults in the United States are overweight; and

WHEREAS, Obesity:

- Is defined as having a Body Mass Index of 30 or above;
- Has reached epidemic proportion in the United States;
- Increases the risk for many chronic diseases;
- And its related health problems are placing a burden on the United States health care system;
- Is generally caused by inactivity and unhealthy eating, with genetics playing a role; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs:

- Supports a national strategy to reduce obesity;
- Encourages businesses to develop products and activities that promote increased physical behaviors;
- Calls upon insurance providers to cover nutrition and fitness counseling and programs;
- Supports a continuing educational and accredited program for medical personal that would include prevention, management, and reversal of obesity; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to create and maintain environments that address obesity.

013-660 Reducing Obesity in Youth (Convention 2019)

WHEREAS, Research has shown that early childhood is an important time for developing dietary and physical activity behaviors that support health and may help prevent obesity, and childhood obesity has more than quadrupled in children and tripled in adolescents in the past 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Infants as young as 7 months exposed to healthy foods are more likely to prefer those foods and develop healthy eating habits; and

WHEREAS, Healthy eating can improve a child's learning ability, higher academic performance, and mental, social and physical well-being; and

WHEREAS, The financial implications of childhood obesity pose a financial burden to the economy and healthcare system, carrying up to \$14,000,000,000 per year in direct healthcare cost, with people in the United States spending approximately 10 percent of their total medical costs on obesity-related illnesses; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs, an organization of 80,000 concerned women in Convention assembled in June 2019, urges the United States Congress to pass the Reducing Obesity in Youth Act, which would:

- Establish a program that will influence practices, policies, and environments in early care and education settings to support healthy eating, physical activity, and screen time reduction for children ages birth through 5;
- Enhance the training and knowledge of early care and education providers on strategies for promoting healthy eating (including early feeding best practices), physical activity, and screen time reduction in early care and education settings; and further



RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the following: President of the United States of America, Donald Trump; Vice President of the United States of America Michael Pence; Senate Majority Leader Mitch

McConnell; Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer; Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi; House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy; Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Lamar Alexander; Chairman of House Committee on Health Education, Labor, and Pensions Tim Walberg; Senator Cory Booker; Representative Steve N. Cohen; Alex M. Azar II, Secretary of Health and Human Services; Betsy DeVos, Secretary of Department of Education; Kyle Yasuda, MD, President of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Marilyn J. Krajicek, EDD, Director of the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Childhood Education; Damon Carson, Chairman, National Head Start Association; Rhian Evans Allvin, Chief Executive Officer, National Association for the Education of Young Children.

[Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (Includes 013-560 HIV/AIDS, Convention 1992; and 013-640 Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare, Convention 1997)

WHEREAS, Sexually-transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS and Human Papillomavirus (HPV), both globally and in the United States:

- **Endanger the lives of both women and men;**
- **Endanger pregnant women and unborn babies;**
- **Continue to spread due to lack of education, symptoms, and access to contraceptives and vaccines, refusal to be vaccinated, and risky sexual and behavioral choices; and**

WHEREAS, Health issues for women and infants are also increased by such risk factors as:

- **Inadequate prenatal care, low infant birth weight, premature birth, and neonatal, infant and maternal morbidity and mortality;**
- **The age of the mother, particularly for children born to teen mothers;**
- **Postpartum depression, a serious and disabling condition that is frequently undiagnosed; therefore**

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- **Legislation and funding for access to comprehensive healthcare;**
- **Research to develop treatments and cures for sexually-transmitted infections;**
- **Development and implementation of programs and services on reproductive health and rights such as sex education, sexually-transmitted infections, family planning, perinatal care, well-baby and well-children, and family-life parenting.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare” above:

013-560 HIV/AIDS (Formerly “Women and AIDs” and “Women, Children and the AIDs Virus” and “Women, Children and HIV/AIDS”; Convention 1992; Amended 1996; Amended 2000; Amended 2004; Amended 2008; Amended 2012; Amended 2016 to include “The United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)”, Convention 2004)

WHEREAS, According to the latest available data, the number of people estimated to be living with HIV rose from 8 million in 1990 to 34 million in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Women represent the fastest growing demographic of HIV infections worldwide; and

WHEREAS, The spread of HIV/AIDS can be directly attributed to the lack of education about the disease; and

WHEREAS, Countless people lack access to proper health care and prevention of transmission products; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support HIV/AIDS educational programs and accessible treatments worldwide.

013-640 Sexual and Reproductive Health Care (Includes “Pre-Natal Care”, Convention 1997; “Reproductive Health Care”, Convention 1990; “Teen Pregnancy”, Convention 1988; “Sexually Transmitted Diseases”, Convention 1987) (Convention 2016)

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women’s Clubs has long been concerned with the health, welfare, and psychological well-being of women and children; and

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control estimates more than 20 million new sexually transmitted infections occur each year in the United States among all age groups, with half of them among young people 15-24, which can complicate pregnancy and have serious effects on both women and developing babies; and

WHEREAS, Inadequate pre-natal care is associated with increased risks including low infant birth weights, premature births, and neo-natal, infant and maternal morbidity and mortality; and

WHEREAS, Most teen pregnancies are unintended and the babies of teen mothers face higher risks; and

WHEREAS, Postpartum depression is a serious and disabling condition that frequently goes undiagnosed; and

WHEREAS, Female genital mutilation, illegal and on the rise in the United States,

- Has negative effects on sexual and reproductive health;
- Increases risk of infertility, childbirth complications, and newborn deaths;
- Violates human rights principles and standards;
- Lacks reporting and prosecution under federal law; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Legislation and funding for access to comprehensive health care for teens and adults;
- Research to develop treatments and cures;
- Programs, services and workshops on sex education, family planning, perinatal care, well-baby and well-child care, and family life parenting;
- Continued education both in schools and for the public;
- Academic education for pregnant teens and teen mothers;
- Educational awareness programs to end female genital mutilation.

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO BE AMENDED:

013-030 Breast Cancer (Formerly “Breast Cancer Examination”; Convention 1986; Amended and Reaffirmed 1989; Reviewed 1993; Amended 1997; Amended 2001; Amended 2005; Amended 2006; Amended 2010; Amended 2014; Reviewed 2018)

WHEREAS, The Center[**s**] for Disease Control [**and Prevention**] reports that one in eight women and one in ~~1,000~~ [**more than 800**] men will develop breast cancer in his/her [**their**] lifetime; and



Resolutions

WHEREAS, A woman's risk of developing breast cancer increases as she ages; and

WHEREAS, The stage at which breast cancer is diagnosed is a major predictor of survival, with early detection significantly lowering the mortality rate; and

WHEREAS, ~~Self examination by palpation, regular physical examination by a physician, especially when there is a family history of cancer, and mammography (x-ray)~~ **[Screening methods, including physical examination, self-examination, laboratory tests, genetic tests,]** and other imaging technologies are screening methods that assist in early **[breast]** cancer detection; and

WHEREAS, **[Common treatments of breast cancer including]** ~~M[m]astectomies~~, **[, breast conserving surgery, radiation, chemotherapy,]** and lymph node **[removal and]** dissections **[extend life]** are common treatments of breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, Many **[breast cancer patients]** are forced to go home from the hospital hours after breast cancer surgery due to hospital-~~[]~~ stay restrictions imposed by their insurance companies; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to ~~continues to raise awareness and encourages participation in breast cancer screening and early treatment;~~ and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support **[support:**

- **Educational campaigns raising awareness of early diagnostic and screening tools available to detect breast cancer and the available treatment options;**
- **[]** legislation requiring insurance companies to cover **[coverage for]** hospital stays for recovering breast cancer surgery patients including a 48-hour minimum hospital stay for mastectomy patients and a 24-hour minimum hospital stay for those undergoing lymph node dissection **[all other breast cancer]** surgery.

Rationale: To update

013-100 Diabetes (Convention 2003; Amended 2008; Amended 2012; Amended 2016)

WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control **[and Prevention]**, diabetes is the **[a]** seventh-leading cause of death in the United States, and the number of children and adults with diabetes is rising, and statistics show that more than 29.1 million, or more that 9.3 percent of the population, have diabetes, of which 8.1 are **[many more cases are undiagnosed; and]**

WHEREAS, Diabetes can cause and/or complicate **[is known to be a causative factor in]** other health problems in children and adults including **[, but not limited to,]** cardiovascular, renal, neurologic, and dental diseases, and may cause **[some]** complications of **[in]** pregnancy and obesity; and

WHEREAS, Diabetes is more prevalent among minority groups and elderly persons; and discrimination against those with diabetes has occurred in the workplace, childcare centers, and schools; and

WHEREAS, In order **[T]** to manage their disease, those with diabetes must have access to **[a healthy, balanced diet]** the means to balance food, **[and]** medication, and **[must maintain a level of]** physical activity level; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Club **[s]** urges its member clubs to support:

- The **[E]** enforcement of disability rights laws prohibiting discrimination against those with diabetes;
- Funding **[Insurance coverage]** for quality **[comprehensive]** medical care for those with diabetes;
- Programs to train school and childcare personnel to identify symptoms and **[facilitate]** treatment options in order for students with diabetes to be medically safe;

Resolutions

- Education about the benefits ~~of a healthy diet and physical activity~~ **[role]** ~~to reduce onset and treatment~~ **[play in treating and reducing the]** ~~of diabetes;~~ **[control]** of diabetes;
- Increased funding for diabetes research and prevention programs **;**
- **Improved awareness of prediabetes symptoms among healthcare providers and people at risk.]**

Rationale: To clarify

013-120 Family Caregivers (Convention 1989; Reviewed 1993; Amended 1997; Reviewed 2001; Amended 2004; Amended 2008; Amended 2012; Amended 2016)

~~WHEREAS, Meeting the demands of multiple family responsibilities, as well as the added pressures of employment and outside commitments, creates great stress for family caregivers; and~~

[WHEREAS, Many people provide emotional and personal care support on a regular basis to a child, parent, or other family member with aging, medical, or special needs; and

WHEREAS, Family caregiving-demands impact the health of caregivers; and

WHEREAS, The majority of family caregivers have a job or career in addition to their caregiving duties; and]

~~WHEREAS, There is a possible financial advantage and opportunity for more~~ **[I]** ~~individualized care options in a community-based programs~~ **[relieve the burden faced by family caregivers]**; therefore

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs work with appropriate agencies in their communities to support~~ **;**

- ~~the~~ **[D]** ~~development and maintenance of creative community~~ **[-]** ~~based services for those with a terminal or debilitating illness~~ **[chronic diseases]**, the elderly, people with disabilities, and family caregivers, such as adult day care centers, respite care, transportation services, nutrition services, home health and homemaker services, congregate or alternative housing arrangements and support groups for family caregivers; and

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to work with their state and federal legislators to formulate~~

- **[Legislation establishing uniform]** licensing **[training standards including CPR]** requirements for home health care workers that would include **[and]** background checks **[for all paid family caregivers]** and minimum standards of training; and further

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports legislation providing for:~~

- **[Legislation requiring]** flexible employment policies and programs to train and aid **[for]** family caregivers;
- ~~Licensing and training requirements for home health care workers.~~

[Educational programs for family caregivers about caregiver wellbeing.]

Rationale: To update

013-150 Freedom of Access to Health Clinics (Convention 1996; Reviewed 2000; Reviewed 2004; Reviewed 2008; Amended 2012; Reviewed 2016)



WHEREAS, The Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances law **[Act]** makes it a federal crime to deny access to medical clinics and facilities by force or threat of force; and

WHEREAS, ~~There have been reported incidences of intimidation and violence at health clinics~~ **[Incidences of intimidation and violence at health clinics continue to be reported]**; and

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women’s Clubs condemns all intimidation and violence; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges **[its member clubs to support]** the **[rigorous]** enforcement of the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances law **[Act]** to ensure public safety at health clinics.

Rationale: To strengthen

013-300 Mental Health Parity (Convention 2004; Amended 2008; Amended 2012; Amended 2014; Amended 2016)

WHEREAS, The National Institute of Mental Health **[:**

- **R]** reports that one in five adults suffer from a diagnosable and treatable mental health disorder; and

WHEREAS, Mental illnesses such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression, obsessive compulsive disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and severe anxiety disorders are illnesses; and

WHEREAS, The National Institute of Mental Health

- **E]** estimates that untreated mental illnesses annually cost **[more than \$100 billion]** hundreds of billions of dollars **[annually]** in lost productivity, healthcare, and societal costs; and

WHEREAS, A report of the Surgeon General’s states that fewer than one in five of the estimated 15 million children and adolescents, who suffer from a mental illness, receive treatment; and

WHEREAS, Discriminatory insurance coverage of mental illnesses **[Significant barriers including lack of mental health providers, higher out-of-pocket costs for mental healthcare,]** limits **[ed]** treatment **[options]**, can bankrupt **[and significant financial burdens for patients and]** families; **[prevent many Americans from accessing mental health treatment]** and place a burden on taxpayers; and **[therefore]**

WHEREAS, Mental health first aid training is needed by educators, first responders, students, co-workers, and others to recognize the signs and symptoms of common mental disorders, to give them the necessary tools to deal with a psychiatric crisis, and to identify local mental health centers for timely referral; and

WHEREAS, Numerous studies have found equitable coverage for mental illnesses to be cost effective; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to promote programs that educate members and the public about the connection between mental and physical health in an effort to remove the stigma associated with mental illness; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support **[:]** legislation and regulations requiring equitable coverage for mental and physical illnesses.

- **Public awareness campaigns on available mental health counseling services in the community;**
- **Efforts to provide resources for patients and families.]**

Rationale: To update



013-330 Nursing Shortage Crisis (Convention 2003; Amended 2007; Amended 2011; Amended 2015)

WHEREAS, The shortage of nurses is a threat to patient health; and

WHEREAS, Recent studies confirm:

- Risks to patients caused by overburdening nurses with an increased caseload;
- A link between inadequate nurse staffing and increased risks of patients dying after surgery;
- Increased nurse burnout and job dissatisfaction; and

WHEREAS, The nursing shortage is contributing to higher health care costs; and

WHEREAS, The Registered Nurse Safe Staffing Act would require Medicare-participating hospitals to establish unit specific staffing plans utilizing a committee comprising at least 55% direct care nurses and publicly report the staffing plan; and

WHEREAS, Resolving the nursing shortage is a national priority; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to provide scholarships to encourage more students to enter the nursing field; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges all appropriate action to increase the number of nursing programs, qualified instructors, and enrollment opportunities for those wishing to enter the nursing profession; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges in-home and center-based facilities to hire the number of nurses reasonably necessary to provide adequate patient care; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges better remuneration and better working conditions for nurses to improve patient care and reduce the nursing shortage; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to advocate for passage of the Registered Nurse Safe Staffing Act.

[WHEREAS, The shortage of nurses is a threat to patient health and a contributing factor to higher healthcare costs caused by high turnover rates and avoidable errors; therefore

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

- **Appropriate action to increase the number of nursing programs, qualified instructors, and enrollment opportunities in the nursing profession;**
- **Regulations lowering the minimum nurse to patient ratio;**
- **Better remuneration and working conditions for nurses;**
- **Nursing school scholarships.]**

Rationale: To clarify

013-350 Organ and Tissue Transplants**[Transplantation]** (**Formerly "Organ and Tissue Transplants";**]Convention 1988; Amended 1992; Amended 1996; Reviewed 2000; Reviewed 2003; Amended 2007; Reviewed 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019)

WHEREAS, The transplantation of vital organs and tissues**[, including vascularized composite allografts (i.e., hands, fascial tissue, limbs, etc.),]** is an accepted medical procedure; and



Resolutions

WHEREAS, Transplantation of organs and tissues **[Tissue banking is an unregulated business venture that]** has become a lucrative business venture in some cases **[through fees charged for processing and handling]**; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of lifesaving and life-enhancing transplant operations depend entirely on donors; and

WHEREAS, **[Only 60% of p]** Potential organ and/or tissue donors should execute an advanced healthcare directive, designate a health care power of attorney, fill out a **[organ and/or tissue]** donor card; and inform healthcare power of attorney and doctors **[providers and family members]** of these directives **[their desire to be a donor]**; therefore

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

- ~~Medical standards defining brain death;~~
- ~~Procurement programs that enlist voluntary registered organ and tissue donors to increase the supply of donated organs;~~
- ~~Legislation establishing priorities, eligibilities, and financial support to cover transplant costs for people who are without means to pay for a transplant;~~
- ~~Regulation of businesses involved in organ and tissue transplantation;~~
- ~~Programs to educate members and communities about transplants and the dire need for donors;~~
- ~~The establishment of standardized best practices for the organ donation process, including a rule requiring that organs be assigned based on a patient's medical status.~~
- **[Public awareness campaigns that educate individuals about the need for organ and tissue donation and the ability to express their personal preferences by signing a donor card, Advance Health Care Directive (Living Will), and/or Health Care Power of Attorney;**
- **Legislation requiring The Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) allocate available donations that take into consideration the patient's medical status and the likelihood of a successful transplant;**
- **Legislation requiring insurance coverage for all aspects of the organ and tissue transplantation process and the long-term costs associated with the transplant;**
- **Legislation regulating tissue banking operations and the disposal of excess tissue.]**

Rationale: To update and clarify

013-500 Stem Cell Research (Convention 2003; Amended 2007; Reviewed 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019)

WHEREAS, Human stem cell research has resulted in improved medical treatment and cure rates for several types of cancer, spinal cord injuries, **[T]**type 1 **[D]**diabetes, Parkinson's disease, **[A]**amyotrophic **[L]**lateral **[S]**cleriosis, Alzheimer's disease, heart disease, stroke, burns, osteoarthritis, lung diseases, sickle-cell anemia, and other conditions; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs **[urges its member clubs to]** supports:

- Continued human stem cell research according to the guidelines established by the National Institutes of Health **[(NIH)]**;
- The periodic examination and revision of NIH standards on human stem cell research to reflect ~~the most current knowledge~~ **[new advancements]**;
- The use of human stem cell science in medical treatments; ~~and further~~

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges

- **E]education about the specifics of human stem cell research and related NIH guidelines.**

Rationale: To clarify

013-540 Tobacco and Young People[E-Cigarettes] ([Formerly “Tobacco and Young People”;] Convention 1997; Reviewed 2001; Amended 2005; Reviewed 2009; Amended 2013; Amended 2017)

~~WHEREAS, Cigarette smoking has declined among United States youth in recent years, but the use of some other tobacco products (electronic cigarettes, hookahs, and smokeless tobacco) has increased; and~~

~~WHEREAS, According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), youth who use multiple tobacco products are at a higher risk for developing nicotine dependencies and might be more likely to continue using tobacco into adulthood; therefore~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports education of young people on the addictive qualities and long-term use of tobacco products; and further~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports enforcement of legislation prohibiting the marketing and sale of tobacco to young people.~~

[WHEREAS, Cigarette smoking has declined in the United States in recent years, but use and popularity of e-cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, and other tobacco products are increasing and their long-term impact on health is not fully understood; and

WHEREAS, Manufacturers of e-cigarettes are not required to report their products’ ingredients, making the amount of nicotine or other potentially harmful or addictive substances unknown; and

WHEREAS, the Food and Drug Administration has the authority to regulate tobacco product standards and has chosen not to prohibit menthol or flavored tobacco products; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- **Development and implementation of a public awareness campaign to address the addictive qualities and hazards of long-term tobacco use;**
- **Enforcement of existing laws prohibiting the marketing and sale of tobacco and e-cigarettes to minors;**
- **Legislation requiring manufacturers of e-cigarettes to provide product ingredient information;**
- **Access to and insurance coverage for effective nicotine-addiction treatments.]**

Rationale: To expand

013-590 Autism Spectrum Disorder (Convention 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019)

~~WHEREAS, Approximately 1 in 59 (or 1.5%) children born in the United States live with Autism Spectrum Disorder~~**[(ASD) is a developmental disability with a wide variation in the type and severity of symptoms and occurs in all ethnic, racial, and economic groups]; and**

~~WHEREAS, the cost of lifelong care of ASD can be reduced with~~ **[early]diagnosis and early intervention; and**



WHEREAS, A number of states have passed laws requiring ASD coverage by private health insurers resulting in more children with ASD receiving treatment; therefore

RESOLVED, that the General Federation Women's of Clubs urges its member clubs to advocate for:

- Legislation ~~providing~~ **[requiring]** private and ~~government~~ **[public-]**sponsored **[health insurance]** coverage for ASD intervention programs;
- Expanded insurance coverage for services, therapies **[,]** and ~~the~~ treatment of individuals of all ages with ASD;
- Continued research into the causes, treatment, and prevention of ASD.

Rationale: To clarify and strengthen

013-610 Heart Disease in Women (Convention 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019)

WHEREAS, Heart disease is the number one killer of women ~~worldwide with increased risk at menopause;~~ **[an overall increase in heart attacks approximately 10 years after menopause]** and is deadlier than all forms of cancer combined; and

~~WHEREAS, Two thirds of women 25-44 years of age who suffer heart attacks never fully recover; and~~

WHEREAS, Studies show:

- [• Approximately 55% of women are unaware that heart disease is the leading cause of death in women;]**
- Women often present with different heart attack symptoms than men **[, resulting in a delay in diagnosis and treatment when a heart attack occurs];**
- ~~• Women wait longer than men to go to an emergency room when having a heart attack;~~
- ~~• Physicians are slower to recognize the presence of heart attacks in women; therefore~~

[• Women account for less than one-third of all subjects in heart disease studies; therefore]

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to ~~provide education on women's heart health; and further~~ **[support:]**

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports efforts to improve the research, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women.~~

[•] Provide education [Public awareness campaigns] on women's heart health [and heart attack symptoms]; and further

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports~~

- [• E]fforts to improve the research, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women.**

Rationale: To update

013-650 Health[c]-Care and Research (Includes Health Care, Convention 1993; Women's Health Research, Convention 1993; Convention 2017)

~~WHEREAS, Cigarette smoking has declined among United States youth in recent years, but the use of some other tobacco products (electronic cigarettes, hookahs, and smokeless tobacco) has increased; and~~



~~WHEREAS, According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), youth who use multiple tobacco products are at a higher risk for developing nicotine dependencies and might be more likely to continue using tobacco into adulthood; therefore~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports education of young people on the addictive qualities and long term use of tobacco products; and further~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports enforcement of legislation prohibiting the marketing and sale of tobacco to young people.~~

[WHEREAS, Individuals need a basic knowledge and understanding of available healthcare options and the documents used to make personal decisions such as Advance Health Care Directives (Living Wills) and Health Care Powers of Attorney; and

WHEREAS, Healthcare insurance coverage and medical treatment should not discriminate based on pre-existing conditions, sex, gender, race, or ethnicity; and

WHEREAS, The inclusion of women and minorities in research studies is important for the generalization of results to the entire population, with data provided by sex, gender, race, or ethnicity; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support legislation that prohibits:

- Discrimination in determining insurance eligibility and rates;**
- Discrimination in medical research;**
- Annual and lifetime coverage limits; and further**

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Legislation that prohibits caps on annual and lifetime coverage limits and discrimination in determining insurance eligibility, insurance rates, and medical research;**
- Improved accessibility, quality, and affordability of healthcare services and the availability of insurance for all;**
- The use of Advance Health Care Directives (Living Wills) and Health Care Powers of Attorney;**
- Continued funding of healthcare programs and research with the equal inclusion of women and minorities.]**

Rationale: To clarify

013-670 Child Survival in Developing Countries (Formerly “Child Survival”; Convention 1989; Amended 1993; Amended 1997; Amended 2001; Amended 2005; Amended 2009; Reviewed 2013; Amended 2017; Reassigned 2020 International Outreach 014-010)

~~WHEREAS, The United Nations reports that millions of children under the age of five die annually of preventable childhood diseases, infections and parasites in the developing world; and~~

~~WHEREAS, Many children’s lives could be saved by providing a healthy and safe environment, safe drinking water, access to quality medical care, proper nutrition, education, adequate clothing and shelter; therefore~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs works with existing international organizations to:~~

- ~~Educate and engage GFWC members in promoting and supporting health care including prenatal care and immunizations for children;~~
- ~~Provide basic treatment for childhood diseases;~~
- ~~Teach parents how to care for sick children;~~
- ~~Provide living conditions that meet children’s physical and mental needs particularly with regard to food, clothing, and housing; and further~~

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges the Congress to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

[WHEREAS, A dependable, usable water supply is essential to the world’s health and population sustainability, especially in developing countries; and

WHEREAS, According to the World Health Organization (WHO), contaminated water and poor sanitation are linked to transmission of diseases such as cholera, diarrhea, dysentery, typhoid, and polio, with diarrheal deaths the second leading cause of death each year among children under the age of five; and

WHEREAS, Many children’s lives could be saved by providing a healthy and safe environment, safe drinking water, access to quality medical care, proper nutrition, education, adequate clothing, and shelters; therefore

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

- **Promote and support projects and organizations in the development of clean, safe water sources worldwide;**
- **Work with existing international organizations to provide and support prenatal care, immunizations, handwashing, and improved sanitation practices;**
- **Provide living conditions that meet children’s physical and mental needs particularly with regard to water, food, clothing, and housing;**
- **Urge Congress to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.]**

Rationale: To update

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO BE REMAIN UNCHANGED:

013-510 Substance Abuse and Rehabilitation

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO BE RECINDED:

013-040 Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillators (AED) (AED) (Formerly “Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training (CPR)”); Convention 1981; Reaffirmed 1986; Amended 1990; Amended 1994; Amended 1998; Amended 2002; Amended 2006; Reviewed 2010; Amended 2014; Amended 2018)

WHEREAS, Sudden cardiac arrest is a serious and often lethal medical condition; and

WHEREAS, Survival is directly linked to the amount of time between the onset of cardiac arrest and defibrillation; and



WHEREAS, The American Heart Association estimates that many lives could be saved each year if Automated External Defibrillators (AED) were more available to the public; and

WHEREAS, Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillators (AED) are proven lifesaving techniques; therefore

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

- Promote the availability of AEDs in all public places;
- Work through local and state legislatures, school boards, education groups and other organizations for the implementation of CPR and AED training in public and private schools;
- Promote participation in age- and gender-specific CPR and AED education, training and recertification for all members of the community.

Rationale: Accomplished

013-160 Freedom of Enterprise (Convention 1973; Reaffirmed 1981; Reaffirmed 1986; Amended 1988; Reviewed 1992; Amended 1996; Reviewed 2000; Reviewed 2004; Amended 2008; Amended 2012; Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, The American economic system provides its people with incentives and rewards exceeding those of almost any other country in the world; and

WHEREAS, Free enterprise operates according to the following principles: the freedom to choose our businesses, the right to private property, the profit motive, competition, and consumer sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, Education on domestic and world economy, political issues and processes which affect the daily lives of the American people is necessary to guarantee continuance of the free enterprise system; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to work with their communities, educators, states, and nation to strengthen the American ideals of political and economic freedoms.

Rationale: Accomplished

013-250 Influence of the Home and Family (Formerly "Influence of the American Home"; Convention 1925; Reaffirmed 1956; Reaffirmed 1973; Reaffirmed 1981; Amended and Reaffirmed 1985; Amended and Reaffirmed 1989; Reviewed 1993; Amended 1997; Reviewed 2001; Reviewed 2004; Reviewed 2008; Amended 2012; Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs recognizes that moral and spiritual strengths radiate from the home and family; and

WHEREAS, Family units should be recognized and supported; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support efforts toward strengthening the home and family through relationships, recreation, education, and spiritual living; and to recognize and celebrate the positive values of home and family.

Rationale: Accomplished

013-680 Population Growth (Convention 1966; Amended and Reaffirmed 1988; Reviewed 1992; Amended 1996; Reviewed 2000; Reviewed 2004; Reviewed 2008; Amended 2012; Reviewed 2016; Reassigned 2020 International Outreach 014-140)

WHEREAS, The rapid worldwide increase in population is a threat to people, economies, the environment, natural resources, wildlife, and world peace; and

WHEREAS, Starvation in many parts of the world is a dire reality and is an ever increasing problem; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges all private and governmental agencies engaged in family planning to increase their efforts to find safe, inexpensive, and effective means to reduce population growth; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to advocate for legislation to make family planning services accessible.

Rationale: Accomplished

HEALTH AND WELLNESS/(CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH)

PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTIONS:

[Limit Liability for Volunteer Drivers

WHEREAS, Many senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and individuals undergoing medical procedures live in areas where public transportation is unavailable or limited and require the use of volunteer drivers for transportation; and

WHEREAS, Volunteers are reluctant to provide transportation because of potential personal liability; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federal of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to advocate for the expansion of the federal Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 (VPA) to include volunteer licensed drivers who transport senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and individuals undergoing medical procedures.]

Recommended by GFWC South Carolina

[Economic Equity (Includes 013-070 Civil Rights in the Workplace, Convention 1991; and 013-110 Economic Equity, Convention 1988)

WHEREAS, U.S. government statistics demonstrate there is a significant gap between the wages paid to men and the wages paid to women, as well as differences in wages to those of different races, national origin, religion, sex or gender identity, and/or sexual preference; and

WHEREAS, Households headed by women:

- **Are more likely to live below the poverty level than households headed by men;**
- **Run a greater risk of impoverishment due to career interruptions, sex or gender discrimination, divorce, death of spouse, or inadequate medical and retirement benefits; and**

WHEREAS, The economic security of women:

- **Affects the welfare of all families;**
- **Is illustrated by the National Equal Pay Day that marks the additional days women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year; therefore**

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

- **Encourage passage of legislation that would improve the economic status of women through workforce training, expanded business opportunities, and affordable and high-quality child care services;**
- **Advocate for equal access for women to higher paying and managerial positions with salaries equal to those of men in like positions through enforcement of economic equity laws;**
- **Promote awareness of the wage gap and National Equal Pay Day;**
- **Support efforts and legislation to protect individuals from wage discrimination based on an individual’s race, national origin, religion, sex or gender identity, and/or sexual preference.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Economic Equity” above:

013-070 Civil Rights in the Workplace (Convention 1991, Amended 1995; Amended 1999; 2003; Amended 2007; Reviewed 2010; Reviewed 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019)

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support all efforts and legislation to protect persons from employment discrimination based on a person’s race, national origin, religion, gender identity, or sexual preference.

013-110 Economic Equity (Convention 1988; Reviewed 1992; Amended 1996; Amended 2000; Amended 2003; Amended 2007; Reviewed 2011; Amended 2015)

WHEREAS, U.S. government statistics continue to demonstrate that there remains a significant gap between the wages paid to men and the wages paid to women; and

WHEREAS, Many female-headed households with children continue to live below the poverty level; and

WHEREAS, Women run a greater risk of impoverishment as a result of career interruptions, gender discrimination, divorce, death of spouse, or inadequate medical and retirement benefits; and

WHEREAS, The welfare of all families is affected by the economic security of women; and

WHEREAS, Equal Pay Day symbolizes how far into the current year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs encourages passage of legislation that would improve the economic status of women through improved employment training, expanded business opportunities, and better child care services; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs advocates equal access for women to higher paying and managerial positions with salaries equal to those of men in like positions through enforcement of economic equity laws; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to promote awareness of the wage gap and of “Equal Pay Day.”

[Consumer Product Safety (Includes 013-090 Consumer Product Information, Convention 1962; and 013-410 Product and Services Liability Reform, Convention 1986)

WHEREAS, The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is responsible for the research, promotion, and regulation of safety standards for a variety of products to reduce injury to consumers; and



WHEREAS, Other types of consumer products are under the jurisdiction of additional federal agencies; therefore

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

- **The reporting of dangerous or unsafe products to the CPSC hotline or through SaferProducts.gov;**
- **Full disclosure of product information, including industry reports and consumer complaints.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Consumer Product Safety” above:

013-090 Consumer Product Information (Formerly “Consumer Safety,” Convention 1962; Amended 1967; Amended and Reaffirmed 1984; Reaffirmed 1988; Reviewed 1992; Reviewed 1996; Amended 2000; Reviewed 2004; Amended 2010; Amended 2014; Amended 2018)

WHEREAS, Ongoing studies of the safety of consumer goods and products are a continuing concern and it is the responsibility of the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to establish mandatory product safety standards in order to reduce the risk of injury to consumers; and

WHEREAS, A consumer hotline is maintained by the CPSC through which consumers can report product concerns or injuries that are not already addressed, or safety concerns may be submitted to SafeProducts.gov; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs advocates full disclosure of information including nutrition facts for all consumables and labeling of phthalates and Bisphenol A (BPA) in all plastic products and opposes any misrepresentation in advertising, labeling, warranties, guarantees, and in all forms of marketing to the public; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to promote programs of education and to support the CPSC hotline to ensure consumer safety.

013-410 Product and Services Liability Reform (Convention 1986; Amended 1990; Reviewed 1994; Reviewed 1998; Reviewed 2002; Reviewed 2006; Reviewed 2010; Reviewed 2014; Reviewed 2018)

WHEREAS, Product and service-related liability litigation has created a serious impact on the economy of our nation; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports the enactment by the United States Congress of uniform, national standards which will guide product and service- related litigation in a fair and sensible manner.

[Mass Media (Includes 013-220 Exploitation of Women in Media, Convention 1981; and 013-280 Mass Media, Convention 1984)

WHEREAS, Mass media is the various means by which information reaches large numbers of people and is a powerful communication tool with far-reaching influences; and

WHEREAS, Individuals are often depicted in stereotypical ways that contribute to violence and/or perpetuate discrimination; therefore

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



- **Responsible use of mass media;**
- **Elimination of gratuitous portrayals of violence;**
- **Elimination of prejudicial portrayals of individuals that perpetuate discrimination.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Mass Media” above:

013-220 Exploitation of Women in Media (Formally “Improper Portrayal of Women” Convention 1981; Reviewed 1987; Amended 1991; Reviewed 1995; Amended 1999; Reviewed 2002; Amended 2006; Amended 2010; Reviewed 2014; Amended 2018)

WHEREAS, Women are often depicted in ways that perpetuate gender-based discrimination and/or contribute to violence against women; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to take a stand against exploitation of women in all media, including but not limited to, movies, television, videos, radio, music, video games, advertisements, and the Internet; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs encourages its member clubs to challenge advertisers, broadcasters, and producers to portray women in a positive manner.

013-280 Mass Media (Convention 1950; Amended 1985; Amended 1989; Reviewed 1991; Reviewed; Reviewed 1995; Amended 1999; Amended 2002; Reviewed 2003; Amended 2007; Reviewed 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019 and merge 013-080 Communication Industry Convention 1984)

WHEREAS, Mass Media is the various means by which information, such as television, radio, movies, newspapers, and the internet, reaches large numbers of people; and

WHEREAS, Mass Media is a powerful communication tool with far-reaching influences; therefore

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

- Against media gratuitous portrayals of violence, which increases aggressive behavior, thoughts, and emotions;
- For public awareness that promotes responsible use of mass media;
- For the communication industry to demonstrate responsibility to the public by a continuous effort to broadcast information that is accurate, educationally sound and morally appropriate;
- For continuing studies and public awareness by public and private sectors that promotes responsible use of mass media.

[Retirement (Includes 013-240 Retirement Savings, Convention 1984; and 013-450 Retired Persons, Convention 1963)

WHEREAS, The population of individuals over 65 years of age is increasing faster than the general population and retirement can result in inadequate income, loss of dignity and/or self-respect, diminished morale, and deteriorating physical and mental health; and

WHEREAS, Retirement planning is a necessity for long-term financial security; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Availability of retirement counseling, healthcare advice, employment and volunteer opportunities, and personal enrichment programs;
- Education promoting the early participation in retirement savings programs;
- Legislation that allows for maximum individual participation in retirement plans.]

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Retirement” above:

013-240 Retirement Savings (Formerly “Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA)”; Convention 1984; Reaffirmed 1988; Reviewed 1992; Reviewed 1996; Amended 1998; Reviewed 2002; Amended 2006; Amended 2011; Amended 2015; Reviewed 2019)

WHEREAS, Individual Retirement Accounts, Self-Employed Pension Plans, and defined- contribution plans are used by millions of families to save for retirement; and

WHEREAS, Since there are several types of retirement accounts, it is important for individuals to be knowledgeable of the interest, tax savings advantages, and future income tax implications of each; and

WHEREAS, Retirement plans are increasingly necessary for long-term financial security; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support legislation and laws that allow for maximum individual participation in retirement plans; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support education and programs promoting retirement savings.

013-450 Retired Persons (Convention 1963; Reaffirmed 1978; Reaffirmed 1984; Reaffirmed 1989; Reviewed 1993; Amended 1997; Reviewed 2001; Amended 2004; Amended 2008; Reviewed 2012; Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, Census Bureau statistics show that the United States population of persons over 65 years of age is increasing faster than the general population; and

WHEREAS, A compulsory retirement policy often results in inadequate income, unwanted leisure, loss of dignity and self-respect, impaired morale, and deteriorating physical and mental health; and

WHEREAS, There is a valuable potential asset in the talents, abilities, experience, training, and energy of retired persons to fill unmet needs throughout the nation; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to encourage and cooperate with the appropriate governmental authorities; businesses; medical facilities; and educational, religious, and civic groups in providing retired persons with:

- Pre-retirement programs to prepare them for meaningful activity and service through the extended life span;
- Information-referral-activity centers for counseling, advice, and companionship;
- Employment and volunteer opportunities;
- Continuing education courses in schools, colleges, and community centers;
- Adequate housing, better nursing homes, and extended care facilities;
- Reduced rates on goods and services; and further



RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports the enforcement of laws prohibiting age discrimination.

[Tolerance and Diversity (Includes 013-260 Tolerance, Convention 1939; and 013-630 Religious Freedom, Convention 2014)

WHEREAS, The unchecked growth of prejudice, incitement to violence, racism, stereotyping, terrorism, and intolerance endangers members of society, leads to violation of the rights of others, and destruction of property; therefore

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

- **Promote community awareness about the unique diversity of other cultures;**
- **Foster tolerance, acceptance, and benefits of diversity;**
- **Support the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) International Day for Tolerance.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Tolerance and Diversity” above:

013-260 Tolerance (Convention 1939; Amended 1952; Reaffirmed 1981; Reaffirmed 1987; Reviewed 1991; Amended 1995; Amended 1999; Reviewed 2003; Amended 2007; Amended 2011; Reviewed 2015; Amended 2019 and merge 014-180 Support of UNESCO Day of Tolerance Convention 2000)

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs believes that the democratic form of government is endangered by the unchecked growth of prejudice, violence, racism, terrorism, and intolerance; and

WHEREAS, The cardinal principles of our democratic institutions demand respect for the rights of others; and

WHEREAS, Problems resulting from intolerance have a national and international impact; and

WHEREAS, The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) promotes peace, non-violence and understanding, and has an established Day for Tolerance, which is observed annually on November 16; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports the observation and promotion of the UNESCO Day for Tolerance and urges its member clubs to accept responsibility for fostering tolerance, justice and religious freedom in clubs and communities.

013-630 Religious Freedom (Convention 2014; Reviewed 2018)

WHEREAS, The Bill of Rights of the Constitution of the United States of America states, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof”; and

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women’s Clubs opposes intolerance, stereotyping, discrimination, incitement to violence, and violence against the members of any religion, and the destruction of religious property; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to inform themselves and their communities about the diversity of religions in their communities to create better understanding; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports the rights of all individuals to devote themselves to a faith of their own and to practice that religion freely, including the right and opportunity for voluntary prayer.

[Keeping Children Safe (Includes 013-420 Child Care, Convention 1988; and 015-850 Safe Children, Convention 2017)

WHEREAS, A safe, educational, and nurturing environment is essential to the wellbeing and development of children; and

WHEREAS, Millions of children under the age of twelve are alone in the home before and/or after school; and

WHEREAS, Young children are left unattended due to the high cost and lack of available childcare, thus putting them at risk; and

WHEREAS, Unattended children are vulnerable to the misuse of mass media; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- **Availability of affordable and accessible childcare;**
- **Health, training, and safety standards for childcare facilities;**
- **Legislation expanding the availability and amount of childcare tax credits;**
- **A living wage for childcare providers;**
- **Community awareness of school-aged children’s safety through the utilization of technology;**
- **Establishment of designated neighborhood safe houses;**
- **Education of parents and/or guardians on the importance of monitoring children’s mass media activities;**
- **Establishment of out-of-school programs and workplace childcare facilities.]**

Rationale: To update, broaden, and consolidate into a more effective resolution

Proposed to be rescinded pending adoption of New Resolution “Keeping Children Safe” above:

013-420 Child Care (Formerly “Child Care”; Convention 1988; Reviewed 1992; Reviewed 1996; Amended 1998; Amended 2002; Reviewed 2006; Amended 2010; Amended 2014; Amended 2017)

WHEREAS, A safe, educational and nurturing environment is essential to the well-being and development of children; and

WHEREAS, The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the majority of families with children under the age of 17 have the single parent or both parents in the paid work force; and

WHEREAS, The high cost and lack of available quality care contributes to young children being placed in mediocre child care or being left unattended; and

WHEREAS, Unexplained absences of young children may be attributed to abductions, serious injury, or death; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports legislation and private initiatives to make quality child care affordable and accessible to all; and

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs supports legislation regulating and enforcing health and safety standards of child care facilities; and further

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

- Support increasing the federal child care tax credit for working parents;
- Support measures requiring early childhood training and increasing the wages of child care providers;
- Encourage self-supporting, independent after school programs in specified areas of school facilities;
- Encourage the enactment of legislation mandating that all child care facilities establish a two-way notification system when a child scheduled to be in attendance is absent from the facility.

015-850 Safe Children (Includes “Latch Key Children”, Convention 1985 and “Missing Children”, Convention 1984; Convention 2017)

WHEREAS, Millions of children under the age of twelve are alone in the home before and/or after school, with few employers providing on-site child care and limited school-based programs; and

WHEREAS, Children may be at risk of abduction by strangers, parents, and/or other individuals who are known to the child; and

WHEREAS, The misuse of modern technology, especially the Internet, contributes to the vulnerability of children; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support state and federal legislation dealing with the secure recovery of unlawfully abducted, detained, or concealed minor children; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to work within their communities to:

- Create community awareness of school-aged children’s safety through the utilization of technology such as digital photo fingerprinting and identification cards;
- Establish designated neighborhood safe houses;
- Encourage parents and/or guardians to monitor their children’s Internet activities;
- Encourage school administrators to establish out-of-school programs and employers to provide on-site child care facilities.

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO BE AMENDED:

013-020 Family Farms (**[Formerly “Agricultural Policy - Family Farms”;**]Convention 1989; Amended 1993; Reviewed 1997; Amended 2001; Amended 2005; Amended 2009; Amended 2013; Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, A F[f]amily F[f]arm is a ~~form of~~ business enterprise in which the ~~entrepreneurial~~**[ownership and daily business management]** decisions are made by **[members of the same]** ~~a family~~**[, which is]** engaged in the production of food, fiber, forest products, and/or flora for profit, which provides a major source of income and capital for reinvestment **[farming and ranching activities with the intent to make a profit]**; and

WHEREAS, Many family farmers rely on off-farm revenue to feed their families, secure health insurance, and keep their farms solvent; and

WHEREAS, The lack of ~~financial rewards~~**[income stability]** is jeopardizing the future of family farms, ~~which not only~~**[that]** produce quality foods, ~~but~~ benefit local communities by **[contributing to the local economy,]**

and being **[are]** good stewards of the land; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs **[urges its member clubs to]** supports legislation, fiscal policies and programs which ensure the financial rewards of farming be sufficient to sustain practical, productive and efficient use of the land by farmers and farm families **[support local, state, and federal legislation and programs that create financial incentives for family farms to continue their operations, enhance the family farmers' ability to compete in the marketplace, and earn a living wage.];** and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges the Congress of the United States to continue developing legislation for a long range constructive agricultural program, to benefit family farms, which will:

- — Assure equal economic opportunity and adequate protection under the law for farm families;
- — Provide more financial incentives to make farming and farm life attractive to farmers and their families, including working to restore the farmer's profit share in the food system;
- — Consolidate duplicate government farm agencies.

Rationale: To update

013-060 Child Support Enforcement Program (**[“Formerly Child Support Enforcement Program”;**] Convention 1983; Amended 1987; Reviewed 1991; Amended 1995; Amended 1999; Reviewed 2002; Reviewed 2006; Reviewed 2010; Reviewed 2014; Amended 2018)

WHEREAS, Children and custodial parents suffer from financial deprivation **[insecurity]** due to non-payment of child support; and

WHEREAS, Child support enforcement programs administered by states and localities aided by the federal government seek to **[local authorities]** encourage parental responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Federal law mandates payment of child support and makes **[designates]** non-payment a felony **[, but limits the ability for enforcement by federal authorities];** therefore

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

- — Study and become knowledgeable about the performance of child support enforcement in their states;
- — Work cooperatively with state agencies to sponsor public awareness of the laws;

[• Advocate for legislation that allows prompt and timely federal enforcement of child support delinquencies;]

- Advocate for enforcement of the laws **[Support local, state, and federal cooperation in the enforcement of child support obligations].**

Rationale: To clarify and strengthen

013-190 Homelessness (Formerly “Homeless”; Convention 1989; Reviewed 1993; Amended 1997; Amended 2001; Amended 2005; Amended 2009; Amended 2013; Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, There are increasing numbers of homeless people, including youth, veterans, elderly, disabled, and families with children; and

WHEREAS, **[Major causes of homelessness include p]** Poverty, lack of affordable housing, unemployment, medical expenses **[access to affordable healthcare],** domestic violence, **[incest and/or]** sexual abuse, mental illness, and addiction disorders **[substance abuse]** are major causes of homelessness; and



WHEREAS, Food, safe shelter, clothing, medical and mental health services, substance and physical abuse treatment, education and employment training opportunities are greatly needed by the homeless; and

WHEREAS, Homeless youth require specialized services to ensure their health, safety, emotional well-being, and education

[WHEREAS, Services are needed to address the needs of the homeless;] therefore

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

- Contact local homeless coalitions to identify current needs and services available including access to public education, ~~mental~~ healthcare, and substance abuse treatment for the homeless population in their communities;
- Support **[local, state, and federal]**funding for services for ~~all at risk in~~ the homeless population;
- ~~Contact local homeless assistance providers and inquire how members can support their efforts;~~
- Support efforts to improve or develop transitional living programs with emphasis on **[to include]**education, life skills, and employment**[workforce]** training to**[for]** homeless families and individuals to become self-sufficient members of the community;
- Support efforts to develop decent, affordable, and permanent housing to ensure that the cycle of homelessness is broken**[break the cycle of homelessness for families and individuals].**

Rationale: To clarify

013-200 Humane Slaughter Enforcement (Convention 2003, Reviewed 2007; Amended 2011; Reviewed 2015; Amended 2019)

WHEREAS, The Humane Slaughter Act does not protect all food animals from inhumane treatment during the slaughter process; and

WHEREAS, Evidence suggests**[Investigations reveal]** that slaughterhouse employees who report inhumane handling and slaughter violations suffer retaliation by ~~management~~ **[fellow employees and business operators]**; therefore

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

- Support the ~~strong~~**[rigorous]** enforcement of the Humane Slaughter Act to protect animals from inhumane treatment;
- Advocate for inclusion of all food animals in the Humane Slaughter Act;
- Promote **[rigorous]**enforcement of **[the laws and]**regulations and policies that protect United States Department of Agriculture slaughterhouse employees who report inhumane handling and slaughter violations.

Rationale: To clarify

013-360 Persons[Individuals] with Disabilities (**[Formerly “Persons with Disabilities”;**]Formerly “People with Disabilities”; Convention 1980; Amended 1984; Reviewed 1988; Amended 1989; Amended 1993; Amended 1997; Reviewed 2001; Amended 2005; Reviewed 2009; Amended 2013; Amended 2016; Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, ~~Persons~~**[Individuals]** with disabilities are entitled to be meaningful ~~participants in~~ **[contributors to]**society; and



Resolutions

WHEREAS, Thousands of men and women voluntarily serve our country in the armed services and as a result of this service may be permanently disabled; and

WHEREAS, Many individuals who have disabilities are unable to reach their fullest potential without the removal of attitudinal, physical and transportation **[due to social, educational, and structural]**barriers; therefore

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

- Support existing laws and further legislation to protect and secure the rights of all persons**[individuals]** with disabilities;
- ~~Defend the rights of persons with disabilities to exercise their civil, political, social, economic, and cultural rights on an equal basis with others;~~
- ~~Promote recognition and acceptance of the principle that persons with disabilities have the same fundamental rights as others; remain a largely neglected and sizeable minority of our society;~~
- Work within their communities to uphold the provisions set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act**[and the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in all community programs.]**; and

~~RESOLVED, That, in recognition of their service, entrance fees to national parks and forest be waived for disabled American veterans; and further~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to work within their communities to uphold the provisions set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act.~~

Rationale: To update

013-490 Specially Trained Dogs and Other Animals F[for People[Individuals]** with Disabilities **[Formerly “Specially Trained Dogs and Other Animals For People with Disabilities”];**]Convention 1987; Reviewed 1991; Amended 1995; Reviewed 1999; Reviewed 2002; Amended 2006; Reviewed 2010; Reviewed 2014; Amended 2018)**

WHEREAS, People**[Individuals]** with disabilities may use service animals and emotional support animals for independence**[, therapeutic needs,]** and emotional wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, Specially trained dogs and other animals are tasked to**[necessary for many individuals]** to achieve independence; ~~therefore~~**[and**

WHEREAS, Service animal fraud is a serious and growing problem that causes confusion with the law and can pose a serious threat to the safety of working animals; therefore]

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support**[:**

- **T]the training **[and certification]**of dogs and other animals for people**[individuals]** with disabilities; ~~and further~~**

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) recognizing and protecting the use of all licensed, specially trained, and certified service dogs and other animals.~~

- [• The expansion and enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act provisions recognizing and protecting the use of all licensed, specially trained, and certified service animals;**
- Education and advocacy efforts to prevent service animal fraud.]**

Rationale: To update and expand



013-690 World Hunger [and Food Insecurity](Formerly “World Hunger”;]Convention 1989; Amended 1992; Amended 1996; Reviewed 2000; Amended 2004; Amended 2008; Reviewed 2012; Reviewed 2016; Reassigned 2020 International Outreach 014-260)

~~WHEREAS, Hunger exists both domestically and internationally; and~~

~~WHEREAS, Hunger affects the quality of life of all by contributing to civil unrest, terrorism, crime, environmental degradation, mass migration of refugees and a curtailment of world trade; and~~

~~WHEREAS, Hunger should be viewed as a problem that can be solved, instead of a tragedy that must be endured; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The immediate problems of hunger, malnutrition and preventable diseases must be dealt with, along with their causes including chronic poverty, deprivation, lack of basic education of young children (especially girls), and/or civil conflicts; therefore~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs commends the worthwhile efforts of private organizations, governments and the United Nations to end world hunger; and further~~

~~RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports initiatives that combine existing domestic and international assistance programs that promote long term self sufficiency of low income people.~~

[WHEREAS, Hunger, malnutrition, and food insecurity exist throughout the world, and are currently on the rise; and

WHEREAS, Hunger and malnutrition are the biggest risks to health, impacting over two billion people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, The primary cause of hunger is poverty, with civil conflict and natural disasters contributing to the increase in the numbers of those suffering from hunger; therefore

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

- Support efforts of private organizations, governments, and the United Nations to end hunger both domestically and internationally;**
- Encourage the availability of nutritious food resources and the eradication of food deserts;**
- Support programs that promote long-term food security of low-income people.]**

Rationale: To broaden

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO BE REMAIN UNCHANGED:

013-310 Migrant Worker Families

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO BE RECINDED:

015-120 Continued Concern for Missing in Action (Convention 1974; Reaffirmed 1984; Reaffirmed 1988; Reviewed 1992; Amended 1996; Reviewed 2000; Amended 2004; Amended 2008; Reviewed 2012; Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs is on record urging concern and action for American prisoners of war and missing in action; and

WHEREAS, There are hundreds of Americans still missing; and

WHEREAS, United States search teams have been given limited authority to search areas where military personnel are last known to be alive; and

WHEREAS, Signatories to the Geneva Convention demand an accounting for prisoners and missing in action; therefore

RESOLVED, That peace with honor demands that the United States government continue to insist that all the missing in action be accounted for, that all prisoners who may be detained by the enemy be freed immediately and that honorable burial for our dead be provided, consistent with the wishes of their families; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges the United States government to call upon the nations of the world, and particularly to signatories of the Geneva Conventions, to assist in providing a full accounting for prisoners of war, the dead and missing in action.

Rationale: Accomplished

015-925 Geneva Convention on Protection of Civilians in Wartime (Convention 1950; Amended 1958; Reaffirmed 1984; Reaffirmed 1988; Reviewed 1992; Reviewed 1996; Amended 2000; Reviewed 2004; Amended 2008; Reviewed 2012; Reviewed 2016; Reassigned 2020 International Affairs 014-040)

WHEREAS, Civilians during the conflict of war are subjected to injury and death from abduction, small arms, landmines, and weapons of mass destruction; and

WHEREAS, The Geneva Conventions prohibit the following acts at any time and in any place whatsoever with respect to any person taking no active part in hostilities:

- Violence to life and person, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment;
- Taking of hostages;
- Outrage upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment; and

WHEREAS, The Geneva Conventions state that attacks must be made solely against military targets; that parties to a conflict must distinguish between civilians and combatants, and civilians may not be attacked; that weapons and methods of warfare likely to cause unnecessary losses or excessive suffering, or severe or long-term damage to the environment may not be used; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges the United States Mission to the United Nations to use its influence for furthering the strict observance of the provisions of the Geneva Conventions relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war.

Rationale: Accomplished