



## Internet and Wireless Communication Safety Resolution<sup>1</sup>

- Whereas, Over 74% of homes in the United States have internet access and 68% of those users are now broadband (high speed internet) users, and the average teen computer usage time is 17.3 hours per month per user; and
- Whereas, An alarming 75% of children share personal information about themselves willingly over the Internet in exchange for goods and services and 77% of youths are contacted by online predators by age 14, and 22% of children ages 10 to 13 are approached yet only 25% of our children will tell a parent about an encounter with a predator who approached or solicited sex while on the Internet; and
- Whereas, The NOP World Technology mKids Study completed in spring 2006, shows that cell phone ownership has topped 16 million among children and youth nationwide, with almost half (44%) of 10-18 year olds in the US owning a cell phone; and
- Whereas, Internet and wireless options continue to grow at an exponential rate and include email, instant messages, chat rooms, web pages, blogs, text messages, camera phones, message boards, and internet games and voice chat abilities; and
- Whereas, The dangers to children on the internet and wireless communications may include access to inappropriate material, solicitation by sexual predators, sexual or racial harassment, cyber stalking, cyber bullying and identity theft; therefore be it
- Resolved: That Alaska PTA, its constituents and members shall work with partners and associated organizations to inform and educate students, parents, educators and communities on the dangers associated with internet and wireless communications use; and be it further
- Resolved: That Alaska PTA, its constituents and members shall work to insure that appropriate laws, policies and regulations are in place to assure the safety of children and youth when they have access to the internet and wireless communications.

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<sup>1</sup> Approved at Alaska PTA 2006 Convention, April 28, 2006