

GFWC-NC Resolutions

No resolution history available before 1971

As of 2018 GFWC-NC Convention

ARTS

010-010 Arts Community Service Program (Reviewed 1977; Reviewed 1981; Reviewed 1985; Reviewed 1989; Reviewed 1993; Revised 1997; Reviewed 1998; Revised 2001; Revised 2004; Reviewed 2009; Reviewed 2013; Amended 2017; Includes Arts; The North Carolina Symphony Orchestra 1971; includes Very Special Arts, Convention 1987)

WHEREAS, GFWC of North Carolina, Inc.:

- Sponsors the arts through scholarships, projects and programs,
- Advocates for state government support of artistic presentations, particularly where such opportunities are not available; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

- Support participation in all levels of the GFWC Festival of Arts and in local, district and state Arts Festivals,
- Patronize local, district and state art endeavors including performing arts, musical groups, youth art month and community sculptures, and further
- Advocates for state appropriations for the NC Symphony, NC Museum of Art, the NC Department of Cultural Resources and the NC School of the Performing Arts.

010-030 Art for Those with Special Needs (Formerly Art for the Handicapped, Convention 1979; Formerly Art for Those with Special Needs and Talents, Revised 1988; Reaffirmed 1992; Revised 1996; Reviewed 2000; Revised 2001; Revised 2004; Reviewed 2008; Reviewed 2012, Reviewed 2016; Includes The Very Special Arts, Convention 1987)

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., has been involved with promotion of the arts at the local, district, state, and national levels; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., believes that those persons with special needs should receive encouragement, materials and a helping hand in the arts; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., has contributed to and supported educational and physical opportunities for those with physical and mental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, The arts can contribute to an enrichment in the lives of these persons; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., recognizes the talents and strengths of persons with developmental disabilities and encourages participation in and support of programs such as the GFWC-NC Artfest.

CONSERVATION

011-010 Air Pollution (Reviewed 1977; Reviewed 1981; Reviewed 1984; Reviewed 1985; Reaffirmed 1989; Revised 1992; Revised 1996; Revised 1997; Reviewed 2000; Revised 2004; Revised 2006; Reviewed 2008; Reviewed 2012; Reviewed 2016; includes Acid Rain, Convention 1989)

WHEREAS, Air pollution is of continuing concern in many communities, and affects the health and safety of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, Air pollution is damaging to crops, gardens, animals, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Scientific studies have established that the emissions from manufacturing and industrial plants burning fossil fuels form acid rain, mercury, and other harmful substances that cause damage to trees and vegetation and waterways; and

WHEREAS, Highway vehicle emissions and non-highway mobile emissions account for a substantial portion of the ozone-forming emissions statewide; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to participate in programs through which individuals can help reduce air pollution in their daily activities and do anything they can do to reduce energy consumption which can help reduce air pollution; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges the North Carolina Division of Air Quality (DAQ) to vigorously enforce the legislation requiring all businesses and industries to control their emissions and to encourage federal legislation that will adequately control air pollution.

011-070 Land Trust (Convention 1993; Revised 1997; Reviewed 2001; Reviewed 2005; Reviewed 2009; Reviewed 2013; Amended 2017)

WHEREAS, Land trusts:

- are private, nonprofit organizations that, as all or part of its mission, active work to conserve land by undertaking or assisting in land or conservation easement acquisition, or by its stewardship of such land or easements and
- provide a means of maintaining and preserving plants and animals' natural habitats; and
- have been organized by citizens in many areas of North Carolina, other areas are still not part of a local or regional land trust; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Work with and support local land trusts in efforts to preserve natural areas, open and scenic landscapes, greenways, and other lands, or where there is no local land trust, to work with other groups in the area to form one.
2. Support the Conservation Trust for North Carolina in its work with local citizen groups, individual landowners, and local governments to support existing trusts and to aid in forming new ones in those counties that have none.

011-080 Mountains-to-the Sea Trail (Convention 2009; reviewed 2013; Amended 2017)

WHEREAS, The Mountains-to-Sea Trail is a premier hiking trail that stretches 1150 miles from the Great Smoky Mountains to the Outer Banks, stopping at many of our state's most beautiful places along the way.

WHEREAS, More than 500 miles of footpath are now completed; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly has declared The Trail part of the state park system; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Contact state and local government and public and private agencies in a campaign to continue construction of the Mountains-to-the Sea Trail.
2. Work toward providing funds to buy land and construct The Trail.
3. Marshal volunteers to build and maintain the Trail.

011-090 The North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences (Formerly North Carolina State Museum of Natural History, Convention 1979; Revised 1991; Reaffirmed 1995; Revised 1996; Reviewed 1999; Reviewed 2003; Revised 2007; Reviewed 2011; Reviewed 2015)

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the need for expanded and improved facilities and exhibits at the State Museum of Natural Sciences; and

WHEREAS, There is a statewide need to promote natural science programs in our schools; and

WHEREAS, The North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences has and is developing programs which facilitate knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of North Carolina's role in the nation's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, These programs are designed to help bring the North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences, its resources and its expertise to individual schools across the state; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support and promote the North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences and the Friends of the North Carolina State

Museum of Natural Sciences.

011-100 North Carolina Zoological Park and North Carolina Aquariums (Formerly North Carolina Zoological Park, Convention 1984; Revised 2000; Reviewed 2004; Reviewed 2008; Reviewed 2012; Reviewed 2016; includes State Zoological Garden 1971)

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the contribution of the North Carolina Zoological Park and the North Carolina Aquariums to the state; and

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Zoological Park and the North Carolina Aquariums need the active support and help of all civic clubs throughout the state; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to continue to support and promote the North Carolina Zoological Park and the North Carolina Aquariums.

011-130 Support of the North Carolina State Parks (Convention 1991; Reaffirmed 1995; Reviewed 1999; Reviewed 2003; Reviewed 2011; Reviewed 2015)

WHEREAS, The North Carolina State Parks System is an important natural resource for North Carolina, providing not only protected habitat for plants and animals, but also for recreational opportunities for its citizens; and

WHEREAS, The need for adequate funding for the renovation, operation, and maintenance of the State Parks System facilities has become apparent, with many park facilities in violation of safety codes and deterioration due to the low operating budget; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to study the needs of the North Carolina State Parks System, and to encourage their representatives in the General Assembly to provide adequate funding for the North Carolina State Parks, and to support measures adopted by the General Assembly to improve funding of the State Parks System.

011-140 The Blue Ridge Parkway (Reviewed 2011; Reviewed 2015)

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is vitally interested in preserving the natural resources of our state; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is vitally interested in conservation education for children; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the need for non-governmental support for the Blue Ridge Parkway; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the need for expanded and improved facilities on the Blue Ridge Parkway; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support and help conserve the Blue Ridge Parkway;

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation and its Parks as Classroom program for student education; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to switch to a Blue Ridge Parkway license plate to support the Parkway and help spread the word about its importance state-wide.

EDUCATION

012-010 Education for the Gifted (Formerly Education for the Gifted and Talented, Convention 1988; Convention 1993; Revised 1996; Revised 1997; Revised 2001; Revised 2005; Reviewed 2009; Reviewed 2013, Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, There are gifted students in North Carolina who do not receive challenging educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. believes that the gifted and talented need recognition and

rewards; and

WHEREAS, Some gifted students without challenges and appropriate instruction may become bored with school and drop out, and possibly adopt anti-social behavior; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges that appropriate educational programs be established for all gifted students so that they may realize their full potential; and further

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs, businesses, and industry to provide recognition and tangible rewards for academic achievement.

012-020 History and America's Future (Convention, 1988; Reaffirmed 1992; Revised 1996; Reviewed 2000; Reviewed and represented as NEW 2002; Revised 2003; Reviewed 2004; Reviewed and moved from Public Issues, 2008; Review 2012, Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, All citizens of the United States should understand and appreciate our great American heritage; and

WHEREAS, The study of history not only increases appreciation of the past but also illuminates the present and gives perspective to our hopes for the future; and

WHEREAS, Contemporary studies indicate that both high school and college students are seriously deficient in their knowledge of American history and the place of the United States in world affairs; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is interested in the development of future leaders who understand the history and political structure of our government and its role in world politics; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages all school systems to provide required studies in United States history and elementary political science which emphasize:

1. American ideals;
2. The place of the United States in modern world affairs;
3. Desired relationships between nations and their mutual responsibilities; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages the continuing support of the history of North Carolina by state appropriation, including the North Carolina Museum of History.

012- 040 Learning Disabilities (Convention 1999; Reviewed 2003; Revised 2011; Reviewed 2015; Includes Advocacy for Rights of Exceptional Children, Convention 1979 and Advocacy for the Rights of Disabled Persons, Reaffirmed 1991)

WHEREAS, Nearly four million school-aged children in North Carolina have some sort of learning disability; and

WHEREAS, Learning disabled children have the right to receive a complete education; and

WHEREAS, Teachers of learning-disabled students require specific training; and

WHEREAS, Many school drop-outs, homeless people, and convicted criminals are found to have specific learning disabilities; and

WHEREAS, It is important to educate our community about learning disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Sixty percent of adults with severe literacy problems have undetected or untreated learning disabilities; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Support training and work of educators and professionals working with the learning disabled.
2. Increase awareness of learning disabilities in their clubs and communities.
3. Encourage early diagnosis and appropriate education.
4. Support the legal rights of the learning disabled.

012-090 Scholarships (Reviewed 1974; Reaffirmed 1978; Reviewed 1986; Reaffirmed 1990;

reaffirmed 1994; Revised 1998; Reviewed 2002; Revised 2005; Reviewed 2006; Reviewed 2010; Reviewed 2014, Amended 2018)

WHEREAS, Individuals with higher levels of education:

- Are more likely than others to be employed with higher earning potential.
- Are actively involved citizens;
- Engage, as parents, in more educational activities with their children, helping them to be better prepared for school; and

WHEREAS, Financial assistance is a necessity for numerous college students, particularly those planning careers that require several years of education beyond the undergraduate level; and

WHEREAS, By removing financial barriers, scholarships make education and career goals easier to obtain; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages its member clubs to work for:

- Expansion of scholarship programs by volunteer organizations, businesses and industry;
- Development of public awareness programs promoting available scholarship opportunities; and
- Establishment of scholarship award projects granting educational funds to community members.

012-100 Teacher Appreciation (Convention, 1988; Reaffirmed 1992; Revised 1996; Reviewed 2000; Revised 2004; Reviewed 2008; Reviewed 2012, Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, It is recognized that teachers in the public school are often underpaid, overworked, and often unappreciated; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. appreciates and respects the classroom teachers, assistants, and other educational professionals directly involved with student instruction as among the most important factors in a child's education; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. strongly believes that the parents and community need to recognize and honor the many dedicated teachers and other educational professionals in the schools; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports, promotes, and endorses activities and celebrations that recognize teachers and other educational professionals.

HOME LIFE

013-010 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (Convention, 1988; Reaffirmed 1992; Reaffirmed 1996; Reviewed 2000; Reviewed 2004; Reviewed 2008; Reviewed 2012, Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome constitutes a major health problem in the world today; and

WHEREAS, Education can help prevent and control the spread of AIDS; and

WHEREAS, Further research is needed to identify the causes and to develop treatments and a cure; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. endorses a sound and adequate educational program in the school system and a well-developed and informative program for public television and other media on AIDS; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs, parents, youth advisors, educators, and all other responsible citizens to support research and public education on AIDS.

013-020 Advocates for Children (Convention 2002; Reviewed 2006; Revised 2010; Reviewed 2014, Reviewed 2018)

WHEREAS, GFWC and GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. have always been advocates for children; and

WHEREAS, GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. believes that all children should have a voice, and that voice should be heard; and

WHEREAS, GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has always worked in communities to increase public awareness of the importance of early intervention, prevention, and advocacy on behalf of children; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports children and community projects encompassing the following child centered issues:

1. Advocacy
2. Counseling
3. Education
4. Legislation
5. Parenting
6. Safety
7. Self-esteem
8. Violence.

013-080 Adoption (Convention 2017; Includes Children's Home Society Convention 2001; Reviewed 2005; Reviewed 2009; Reviewed 2013)

WHEREAS, Every child has the right to a permanent, safe and loving family; and

WHEREAS, Promoting the relationship of children and families improves our communities; and

WHEREAS, Regardless of age, medical issues or developmental difficulties, all children deserve a stable family structure; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of the first GFWC-NC Junior Project: Children's Home Society; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., urges its member clubs to support the right of parents to choose adoption through similar organizations.

013-090 Equipment for the Visually and Hearing Impaired (Convention 2000; Reviewed 2004; Revised 2008; Revised 2012, reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, Special telephones for the deaf/blind can assist them in their daily living; and

WHEREAS, The program of Equipment under NC Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing provides these needed services for individuals with disabilities on fixed incomes and/or at the poverty level; and

WHEREAS, This program funding comes from the General Assembly; therefore

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the North Carolina State House and Senate members to promote continued funding for current and new technology; and further

RESOLVED, That the membership of the GFWC of North Carolina is encouraged to contact their respective legislators in support of the Resolution.

013-260 Social Services (Reviewed 1976; Reviewed 1980; Reviewed 1984; Reviewed 1988; Revised 1992; Reviewed 1996; Reviewed 2000; Reviewed 2004; Reviewed 2008; Reviewed 2012, Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, The common concerns and goals of the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. and the State Division of Social Services on behalf of the people of North Carolina have led to a continuing working relationship on both state and local levels; and

WHEREAS, Greater knowledge, understanding, and support of the programs of assistance offered by the State Division of Social Services are needed; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. endorses:

1. A vigorous program of public information and education to bring the facts concerning public assistance to the attention of the people in all the counties of the state.
2. A financial program to support statewide social, medical, and protective services as a means of attaining the goals of preventive and remedial help.

013-270 Special Olympics (Formerly International Special Olympics, Convention 1979; Reviewed

2011; Reviewed 2015)

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the athletic abilities of the physically and mentally challenged persons throughout the world; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. endorses, contributes to, and supports the International Special Olympics program, enabling the impaired person to compete under the sponsorship of the "Special Olympics" in the United States of America.

013-290 Women's Health Care (Convention 2004; Revised 2008; Reviewed 2012, Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, The GFWC-NC recognizes the importance of various aspects of women's health issues, in which a full range of services is needed to meet those needs, including neonatal, hormonal, preventative screening, diagnostic, and comprehensive treatment; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC-NC recognizes the importance of education on physical health issues such as heart disease, osteoporosis, smoking, organ transplant, diabetes, and others; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC-NC recognizes the importance of education on mental health issues such as premenstrual syndrome, postpartum mood disorders, menopause, and others; therefore

RESOLVED, In order to dispel myths and to make club members aware of women's health needs the GFWC-NC urges its member clubs to continue education in their clubs and communities on these issues.

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

014-020 International Aid (Convention 1982; Reviewed 1986; Reaffirmed 1990; Revised 1991; Revised 1994; Revised 1998; Reviewed 2002; Revised 2004; Revised 2006; Reviewed 2010; Reviewed 2014, Reviewed 2018)

WHEREAS, GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. believes that we are all a part of a world community and our interest should extend to all parts of this community; and

WHEREAS, The people of deprived countries need assistance with good nutrition, adequate health facilities, advanced methods of agricultural production, and skills in construction and the field of education; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports efforts to meet these needs through international outreach programs such as Heifer Project International, Save the Children, CURE International, CARE, Operation Smile, Childreach and World Food Day.

014-040 International Understanding (Convention 1979; Reviewed 1983; Represented as NEW Convention 1987; Reaffirmed 1991; Reaffirmed 1995; Reviewed 1999; Reviewed 2003; Reviewed 2011; Reviewed 2015)

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. believes that an understanding of cultural, economic, historic, and religious heritage of the nations of the world is necessary to world peace; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages members to study these issues, the languages, and the role religions play in world events; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. works to promote international understanding and peace.

PUBLIC ISSUES

015-010 Public Policy Programs (Formerly Legislative Programs under Education, Reviewed 1972; Revised 2004; Reviewed 2008; Referred back to committee 2012; Reviewed 2013, Reviewed 2017)

WHEREAS, GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., is a member of NC Women United and the NC Center for Nonprofits; and

WHEREAS, Each of the above organizations study and formulate a public policy program for presentations to each session of the General Assembly; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., encourages its member clubs to become involved with public policy programs; and further

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., encourages its member clubs to use the GFWC-NC and GFWC Resolutions as a foundation to formulate and to become involved with public policy programs.

015-120 GFWC Identity (Convention 1991; Revised 1999; Reviewed and represented as NEW 2002; revised 2003; Reviewed 2011; Reviewed 2015)

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs has entered its second century as a service organization; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to enhance the image and identity of the General Federation of Women's Clubs; and

WHEREAS, All newly federated clubs are required by the bylaws to incorporate the GFWC name into their club name; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages its member clubs to incorporate the name of GFWC into their local club name.

015-150 Honoring Our Veterans (Convention 2012, Revised 2016)

WHEREAS, North Carolina has one of the greatest number of military bases in the US and numerous military troops are stationed in this state, and

WHEREAS, The troops have been withdrawn from Iraq and many of them are combat veterans of this war since the U.S. invaded Iraq in 2003, and

WHEREAS, These troops are now returning home; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. honor the bravery of our veterans and honor the memory of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice and that we honor our troops, their spouses and children; and further

RESOLVED, That we will remember their outstanding courage and commitment to freedom and we will be thankful for the fine Americans who have given so much to our great country and thank them for their service to our country and our state.

015-160 Non-licensed Vehicle Safety (Convention 2006 merged Bicycle Safety, Reviewed 1974 and Safety Helmets, Convention 2002; Reviewed 2010; Reviewed 2014, Revised 2018)

WHEREAS, There are transportation alternatives to traditional automobiles that may put users at risk including but not limited to bicycles, golf carts, motorcycles, mopeds, scooters, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), skates, skateboards, scooters, Segways, and hover boards, and;

WHEREAS, Accidents involving these transportation alternatives can result in serious injury including traumatic brain injury, and such accidents sometimes result in fatalities;

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Promote safety courses for users of these means of transportation.
2. Encourage bicycle riders to be aware of the risk and dangers of riding on public roads where there is no bike lane.
3. Encourage use of safety helmets by children and adults as required by state law.
4. Support legislation requiring safety helmet use by all persons regardless of age who are using transportation including but not limited to bicycles, golf carts, motorcycles, mopeds, scooters, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), skates, skateboards, scooters, Segways, and hover boards.
5. Oppose the repeal of state law which requires use of safety helmets by motorcyclists, and further

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges support for the construction of bike lanes and facilities to promote safety on public streets and roads.

015-170 NC Broadband Authority & Utilization (Convention 2014; Revised 2018; formerly E-NC Authority, Convention 2007)

WHEREAS, Broadband is a high-capacity transmission technique using a wide range of frequencies, which enables many messages to be communicated simultaneously; and

WHEREAS, Broadband technology is a key component to economic development, education and government efficiency; and

WHEREAS, GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., believes that citizens, schools, and businesses benefit from the availability and utilization of affordable broadband Internet access; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., urges its member clubs to support local broadband planning and engagement efforts to continue the growth of broadband infrastructure.

015-180 North Carolina Law Enforcement Officers (Reaffirmed and renamed 1995; Reviewed 1999; Reviewed 2003; Reviewed 2011; Reviewed 2015; includes North Carolina Highway Patrol, Reviewed 1971; and Law Enforcement Officers, Reviewed 1976)

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is aware that the North Carolina Law Enforcement Officers, because of their excellence, dedication, and concern for public safety, have earned a national reputation for their exceptional service; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. commends the North Carolina Law Enforcement Officers for their achievements; and urges its member clubs to recognize the achievements of the North Carolina Law Enforcement Officers and to express their appreciation for their creditable performance of duties.

015-250 Transportation Museum (Convention 2008; Reviewed 2012, Reviewed 2016)

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the contribution of the North Carolina Transportation Museum to the state; and

WHEREAS, There is a statewide need to promote the history of transportation in our schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Transportation Museum needs the active support and help of all civic clubs throughout the state; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support and promote the needs and resources of the North Carolina Transportation Museum.

015-280 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MISDEMEANOR CONVICTIONS (Convention 2017)

WHEREAS, Federal law generally prohibits individuals convicted of domestic violence misdemeanors from purchasing or possessing firearms or ammunition but North Carolina law does not, and

WHEREAS, By pleading felony charges down to misdemeanors, assailants can legally purchase and possess guns despite criminal convictions and the risk to intimate partners, therefore

RESOLVED, that GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

- Contact state legislators and request that state laws regarding domestic violence convictions and guns be amended to conform to Federal law;
- Conduct a public awareness campaign to show that closing the gaps in state domestic violence laws will save women's lives.

015-290 SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

WHEREAS, The vast majority of school-age children rely on buses to transport them to and from school and school related activities; and

WHEREAS, The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) policy is that every school bus should have a three-point seat belt; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports measures to improve school bus safety,

including better bus driver hiring practices, education, training, and supervision and use of bus monitors where needed; and further

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support initiation and passage of legislation that would require three-point seat belts on school buses and stronger guidelines for hiring and monitoring school bus drivers.

015-300 SEX TRAFFICKING IN NC PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, As of July 2016, all North Carolina school districts are mandated (HB279) to provide sex trafficking materials to students during sex education health classes, and

WHEREAS, training for public school personnel about human trafficking is not mandated nor planned, making it difficult to assist students with questions and referrals, and

WHEREAS, parents, probably uninformed about human trafficking and how to recognize the signs, are less able to protect their children from being exploited; and

WHEREAS, UNICEF, a GFWC Partner, developed and initiated End Trafficking Project and Toolkit for use by GFWC clubs to raise awareness of child trafficking and mobilize communities to take meaningful action to help protect children; therefore

RESOLVED, that GFWC-NC urges its member clubs to:

- Work with local entities, such as parent teacher organizations and, city/county government to assure that North Carolina students receive in-class sex trafficking education;
- Utilize the UNICEF End Trafficking Toolkit with topics on how to recognize when human trafficking is occurring and how to employ protective factors outlined by US Children's Bureau;
- Implement actions identified in the Search Institute Assets and Sparks program to keep children less vulnerable and more engaged in healthy, life-giving activities;
- Encourage participation in the Stewards of Light 2.5-hour training, offered without fee online or as a scheduled class by Darkness to Light (D2L.org) to protect children and youth from sexual abuse, a consistent component in the lives of minors who have been rescued from a life of exploitation as well as those who conduct the exploitation.