

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF MASSACHUSETTS

Lynne M. Stader, President
2017-2018

The following resolutions are presented in accordance with "Rules Governing Resolutions: II , Procedure" for consideration at Annual Meeting 2018. Please study these Resolutions and bring a copy with you to the meeting on May 5-6, 2018.

The following Resolutions are recommended to be amended.

Education

7. Income Tax Deduction for Tuition

Whereas, The financing of higher education of children will continue to be an increasing burden on parents and guardians; and

Whereas, Students who must earn their way through school should be aided and encouraged to pursue higher education; and

Whereas, An income tax credit or deduction will encourage persons to help in financing the higher education of students; therefore

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts supports existing laws and legislation which provide that tuition fees to higher educational institutions, accredited by State and regional associations be deductible from income before income taxes or qualify for credit against income tax liability.

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Whereas, An income tax credit or deduction will encourage persons to help in financing the higher education of students; therefore

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts supports existing laws and legislation which provide that tuition fees to higher educational institutions, accredited by State and regional associations be deductible from income before income taxes or qualify for credit against income tax liability.

Rationale: To update

Home Life

2. Alzheimer's Disease

Whereas, it is estimated that more than 5.4 5.5 million Americans have Alzheimer's today; unless a cure or prevention is found, that number will increase to between 11 and 16 million by 2050; and

Whereas, Alzheimer's affects approximately 200,000 individuals under the age of 65 who have younger-onset Alzheimer's, up to 5.3 million 13% of people age 65 and over, and with the disease significantly increasing after age 85 increasing to 50% at age 85 and older; and

Whereas, Women make up almost 2/3 of Americans with Alzheimer's; and

Whereas, Direct and indirect costs of Alzheimer's and other dementias amount to more than will cost the nation \$183 \$259 billion annually with expectations these costs could run as high as \$1.1 trillion by 2050; and therefore

~~Whereas, A new person develops Alzheimer's every 68 seconds — this is projected to increase to every 33 seconds by 2050; therefore~~

~~Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts urges its member clubs to support health care initiatives, education, and ~~legislation~~ legislative measures to further any existing studies to find a cure.~~

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Whereas, it is estimated that more than 5.5 million Americans have Alzheimer's today, unless a cure or prevention is found that number will increase to 16 million by 2050; and

Whereas, Alzheimer's affects approximately 200,000 individuals under the age of 65 who have younger-onset Alzheimer's, up to 5.3 million people age 65 and over, and the disease significantly increases after age 85 ; and

Whereas, Women make up almost 2/3 of Americans with Alzheimer's; and

Whereas, Direct and indirect costs of Alzheimer's and other dementia's amount to more than \$259 billion annually with expectations these costs could run as high as \$1.1 trillion by 2050; therefore

~~Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts urges its member clubs to support health care initiatives, education, and legislative measures to find a cure.~~

Rationale: To update

18. Organ and Tissue Transplant

~~Whereas, The Transplantation of vital organs, such as kidneys, pancreas, liver, heart or lung, and also tissues such as skin, bone, heart valves, ligaments, and corneas, has become is an accepted medical option procedure; and~~

~~Whereas, Transplantation of organs and tissues can in some cases has become a lucrative business venture that is attracting the involvement of organizations, clinics, hospitals and business groups; and~~

Whereas, Thousands of life saving and life enhancing transplant operations depend entirely on donors; and

Whereas, ~~Anyone wanting to become an~~ Potential organ and/or tissue donors should complete an advanced health care directive, designate a health care power of attorney, fill out a donor card, and inform the health care power of attorney and doctors of these directives; therefore

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

1. Medical standards defining brain death;
2. Programs that enlist voluntary registered organ and tissue donors;
3. Legislation establishing priorities, eligibilities and financial support to cover transplant costs for people who are without means to pay for a transplant; and
4. Programs to educate members and communities about transplants and the dire need for donors.

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Whereas, Transplantation of organs and tissues is an accepted medical procedure; and

Whereas, Transplantation of organs and tissues can, in some cases, become a lucrative business venture; and

Whereas, Thousands of life saving and life enhancing transplant operations depend entirely on donors; and

Whereas, Potential organ and/or tissue donors should complete an advanced health care directive, designate a health care power of attorney, fill out a donor card, and inform the health care power of attorney and doctors of these directives; therefore

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

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2. Programs that enlist voluntary registered organ and tissue donors;
3. Legislation establishing priorities, eligibilities and financial support to cover transplant costs for people who are without means to pay for a transplant; and
4. Programs to educate members and communities about transplants and the dire need for donors.

Rationale: To update

International Outreach

4. Enforcement of Immigration Laws

Whereas, Effective enforcement of immigration laws is needed to control national security, economic, health and social problems created by illegible immigrations; therefore

~~*Resolved*, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts makes its member clubs aware of the problems that exist in the United States regarding the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and~~

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts urges its elected officials and member clubs to support strict enforcement of existing immigration laws, and maximum appropriations for the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to carry out its mission; and further

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts supports recommendations of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) pertaining to the testing of immigrants for health-related conditions deemed inadmissible.

Rationale: To update

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Whereas, Effective enforcement of immigration laws is needed to control national security, economic, health and social problems created by illegible immigrations; therefore

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts urges its elected officials and member clubs to support enforcement of existing immigration laws, and maximum appropriations for the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to carry out its mission; and further

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts supports recommendations of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) pertaining to the testing of immigrants for health-related conditions deemed inadmissible.

International Outreach

7. Man-Made and Nuclear Disasters

Whereas, Man-made and nuclear disaster, which cause a loss of life, health hazards and contamination, may occur in the United States and throughout the world; and

Whereas, The General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts is concerned about the fate of the people affected by such tragic disasters; therefore

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts urges the United States Government to call upon the nations of the world, particularly the Secretary General of the

United Nations, to demand that such disasters be reported immediately so that all nations may assist in aiding the victims and their families; and further

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts strongly urges the United States and the nations of the world to find a more effective means to standardize the safety regulation in nuclear plants **and a process for safe disposal of all nuclear wastes.**

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Whereas, Man-made nuclear disaster, which cause a loss of life, health hazards and contamination, may occur in the United States and throughout the world; and

Whereas, The General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts is concerned about the fate of the people affected by such tragic disasters; therefore

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts urges the United States Government to call upon the nations of the world, particularly the Secretary General of the United Nations, to demand that such disasters be reported immediately so that all nations may assist in aiding the victims and their families; and further

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts strongly urges the United States and the nations of the world to find a more effective means to standardize the safety regulation in nuclear plants and a process for safe disposal of all nuclear wastes.

Rationale: To update

The following Resolutions have been reviewed and are recommended as new.

Home Life

Health Care and Research

Whereas, There is a need for a full range of medical and mental health care services, including prescription drugs, to meet health care needs; and

Whereas, Everyone needs basic knowledge and understanding of health care options as well as living wills and health care powers of attorney; and

Whereas, Too few research studies were conducted on diseases and conditions that affect women and the inclusion of women in clinical trials potentially facilitates the development of less expensive treatment and strategies; and

Whereas, Women were not routinely included in Phase I and II stages of National Institutes of Health funded clinical trials; therefore

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts urges its member clubs to work with their communities, the government, and private sector to improve the quality and affordability of health care services, prescription drugs, insurance for all, along with living wills and health care powers of attorney; and

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts urges improved communication and explanation of medical terms and procedures by medical professionals to patients and caregivers; and

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts urges its member clubs to support legislation that prohibits:

1. Discrimination for pre-existing conditions in determining insurance eligibility and rates;
2. Gender discrimination in insurance rating and medical research;
3. Lifetime caps; and

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts urges continued commitment and funding for women's health programs; and further

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts urges continued monitoring of the National Institute for Health (NIH) Revitalization Act of 1993 which ensures that women and minorities be included in all clinical trials; in trials including women and minorities, the trial be designed and carried out so it is possible to analyze whether the variables being studied affect women and minorities differently than other participants; and that NIH is initiating programs for outreach to recruit and retain women and minorities and their sub-populations as volunteers in clinical studies.

Rationale: New Resolution from National addressing the rise in the awareness of health care and research which is relevant to Massachusetts clubwomen.

Public Issues

Traumatic Brain Injury Prevention

Whereas, Traumatic brain injury (TBI) occurs when a sudden trauma causes damage to the brain; and

Whereas, Studies show that wearing a helmet can significantly reduce the risk of TBI; and

Whereas, Every TBI is different, and symptoms can be mild, moderate, or severe, depending on the extent of the damage to the brain; and

Whereas, The best practices for TBI are prevention and education; therefore

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

1. Wearing a seatbelt while in a motor vehicle;
2. Wearing a properly fitted helmet when participating in contact sports and recreational activities, including motorcycles and mopeds;
3. The institution of safety measures in the home for the prevention of falls by children and senior citizens;
4. The practicing of gun safety in the home; and
5. The education of parents and coaches on TBI for the protection of children and teens.

Rationale: New Resolution from National addressing the rise in the awareness of Traumatic Brain Injuries which is relevant to Massachusetts clubwomen.