Honoring Fight Crime: Invest in Kids 25th Anniversary #2021-01

WHEREAS, The members of the WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS & POLICE CHIEFS wish to recognize FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS for 25 years of excellent work collaborating with law enforcement and promoting policies that protect public safety through smart investments in children and families; and

WHEREAS, As a result of the efforts of FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS, its membership has grown from a handful of law enforcement leaders to now number more than 5,000 members from all corners of the country; and

WHEREAS, FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS is a leading voice nationally for investments in proven crime-prevention initiatives such as afterschool programs, voluntary home visiting, quality preschool, child care assistance for working families, and juvenile diversion programs; and

WHEREAS, thousands of police chiefs, sheriffs, and prosecutors have been actively involved with FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS over the past 25 years – meeting with their policymakers, testifying in state capitols and Washington, D.C., authoring opinion pieces in their local newspapers, visiting local programs, and speaking at press events; therefore, be it

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs congratulate the staff and leadership of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids on the occasion of its 25th anniversary and recognize the organization for its lasting contributions towards a safer, prosperous future for children and families in the United States of America.

Approved May 26, 2021
WHEREAS, in November 1993, the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) passed a resolution supporting Washington Special Olympics; and

WHEREAS, WASPC Strategic plans include maintaining a liaison relationship with the Law Enforcement Torch Run as a partner agency; and

WHEREAS, the Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) began in Kansas in 1981 and “What started in 1981...as a flicker of hope for Special Olympics has now become a roaring flame of stability for Special Olympics athletes worldwide.”; and

WHEREAS, through the partnership of LETR and Special Olympics, our participation provides opportunities for athletes to empower and transform themselves, their communities, and the world; and

WHEREAS, LETR is changing the future for people with intellectual disabilities and lighting the way for acceptance and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, Special Olympics Washington is proud of the dedicated law enforcement personnel from all over the state committed to raising thousands of dollars for our athletes and increasing public awareness of the program. Nearly 2,000 law enforcement personnel are involved in Washington State LETR efforts and raise over half a million dollars annually for local programs; and

WHEREAS, part of the WASPC strategic intentions plan prioritizes principles for community trust to include perceptions of law enforcement. WASPC believes building public trust in law enforcement is essential to public safety in 21st century policing; and

WHEREAS, Washington’s law enforcement officers desire opportunities to connect positively with the community through outside service opportunities that benefit the areas they live and work in,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs pledge our continued support and dedication to rekindling the flame of hope through participation in the Law Enforcement Torch Run in Washington State. We encourage our members to dedicate their staff to spread awareness and raise money to benefit Special Olympics Athletes in Washington State and fan the flame of hope in this, the fortieth year of the torch run and long into the future.

Adopted 11/17/2021
WHEREAS, the members of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs are assembled for the annual Fall Conference at the Skamania Lodge, in Stevenson, Washington, November, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Traffic Safety Committee recognizes the importance of supporting programs and projects that work to reduce the incidence and severity of traffic crashes involving young drivers; and

WHEREAS, between 2017 and 2019 young drivers represented approximately 13 percent of Washington’s licensed drivers but accounted for roughly 29 percent of all traffic fatalities and 31 percent of all serious injuries which equated to 472 fatalities and 2,099 serious injuries involving drivers aged 16-25; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that positive approaches to changing behavior have been effective at decreasing the incidence of teen driver involved crashes where it has been employed; and

WHEREAS, The Teens in the Driver Seat Program, has been shown to be an effective positive strategy to improve the driving habits of teen drivers that participate; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Traffic Safety Commission, at the suggestion of WASPC’s Traffic Safety Subcommittee’s recommendation is working to implement the program across Washington State; and

WHEREAS, the members of WASPC could be contribute to the success of the program through their support and endorsement within their communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the membership of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs support the implementation of the Teens in the Driver Seat Program in high schools and communities across Washington State to improve the safety of all road users.

Adopted 11/17/2021