

The following is a historic example of well-stated resolution from AAFP, causing little debate and adopted as written. These are general best practices.

- First WHEREAS – identify issue
- Second WHEREAS – provide research, context, background, demonstrate a need and explain how it meets an Academy objective(s)
- RESOLVE – should call for an action within Academy purview and stand on its own without the “whereas” clauses

Tip: Write the “resolved” clause(s) of the resolution first. Once the “resolved” clause(s) are written, prepare the “whereas” clause(s) as the premise for the “resolved.” If “whereas” clauses are not stated clearly, factually, and limited to relevant information, they may produce unnecessary debate and, therefore, detract from the effectiveness of the resolution. Though they precede the “resolved” portion in presentation, it is best to develop them after the “resolved” portion is written. This makes it easier to limit the “whereas” clause(s) to relevant and necessary information.

Resolution SAMPLE:

Increased Funding for WIC Program

WHEREAS, the Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Food Program (WIC) was initiated to provide better nutrition and nutritional counseling to pregnant women, lactating mothers and their infants and children up to five years of age, and

WHEREAS, studies at the Harvard School of Public Health have determined that the program is effective in decreasing the number of premature births and low birth weight infants (American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, 40:579, 1984; JADA 80:221, 1982), and

WHEREAS, nine million women, infants and children are estimated to be eligible for the WIC program but currently only one-third of these are being served, and

WHEREAS, the AAFP supports cost effective, preventive health measures and adequate nutrition for all children, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the AAFP actively encourage the United States Congress to support increased funding for WIC to enable higher participation in the program.