



## Parental SOL Opt-Out Designation on Non-End of Course SOL Tests

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Standards of Learning tests are administered annually to students in grades 3-12; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia state law does not require passing SOL scores as a precursor to advancing to the next grade level; and

**WHEREAS**, a passing score on any End of Course SOL (High School Credit) is required to earn a verified credit in that course; and

**WHEREAS**, students are not required to take SOL tests; and

**WHEREAS**, parents may currently decide to opt their child out of taking any SOL test; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) regulations requires that any student who does not take an SOL test for any reason, including Parental Opt Out, to be counted as a "refusal" which equates to a score of zero and as a failing grade on all SOL reports; and

**WHEREAS**, failing SOL scores can result in the loss of accreditation of a school or school division;

### **THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that Virginia PTA seeks legislation that would require the VDOE to designate a "Parental Opt Out" option and designation on non-End of Course SOL tests; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that Virginia PTA seeks legislation that would require a verified parent or guardian signature in order for any student to opt out of a non-End of Course SOL; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that Virginia PTA seeks legislation that would require that there be no negative impact of a Parental Opt Out designation on the student, any teacher evaluation, or school and school division accreditation rating.

2015 and amended in 2016, approved by General Membership