

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 1

Whereas a century of education of the deaf has demonstrated a continued ineffectiveness in developing language skills commensurate with the potentials of deaf individuals; and

Whereas educators of deaf children have tended to move cautiously in initiating innovative programs aimed at alleviating widespread functional illiteracy among school leavers; and

Whereas Roy K. Holcomb and Herbert Larson have successfully completed properly accredited teacher preparation programs at the state and national levels, and have similarly completed post-graduate training relating to the administration and supervision of educational programs for the deaf, and in addition have demonstrated superior achievements as both classroom instructors and school administrators; and

Whereas Roy K. Holcomb and Herbert Larson have pioneered total communication programs for deaf children in day programs in Santa Ana and SELACO school district in California, respectively, with significant success, and have received local, state, national, and international acclaim for their work in total communication; therefore

Be it resolved that the Professional Rehabilitation Workers with the Adult Deaf in Convention assembled in Rochester, New York, on October 13, 1970, recognize and applaud the signal achievements of these deaf educators and commend their efforts as worthy of full emulation in the education of deaf persons everywhere; and

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be made available to Mr. Holcomb and Mr. Larson, to appropriate individuals in the school districts which they serve, to the California State Department of Public Instruction, and to other key individuals at the federal and state levels.

RESOLUTION 2

Whereas control of funds for rehabilitation training programs is being decentralized and transferred to the regions; and

Whereas most regions lack specialists knowledgeable about deafness who are committed to supporting the interests of deaf persons;

We urge that training programs in the area of the deaf continue to be administered from the RSA Office in Washington.

RESOLUTION 3

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the PRWAD appoint an ad hoc committee on education of the deaf, which committee would be charged to prepare an official position paper on educational policies and practices with deaf children and youth in the United States.

Topics encompassed in the Committee's deliberations and to be presented in its final report to the membership would be:

- 1) Communication Methods
- 2) Parent education
- 3) Qualifications of teachers, dormitory personnel, and other supportive personnel
- 4) General content of instructional programs
- 5) Counseling and guidance authorities
- 6) Meaningful research
- 7) Professional Training
- 8) Relationships with Vocational Rehabilitation
- 9) Relationships with the Deaf Community
- 10) Educational Administration

This ad hoc committee would report to the PRWAD Board which is authorized by the general membership to accept or reject such a position paper.

RESOLUTION 4

Resolved, that thanks and appreciation be extended by the PRWAD to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology, for its invitation to meet in Rochester, to its

staff for its splendid cooperation and assistance with the conference, program development, and in conjunction with the Rochester School for the Deaf, for its fine hospitality.

RESOLUTION 5

Whereas members of the PRWAD provide service, counseling and other needs primarily for deaf persons experiencing minimal or extremely limited success in existing educational programs; and

Whereas the area of communication continues to reflect the greatest limitations and the greatest human need for the vast majority of deaf individuals; therefore

Be it resolved that the PRWAD strongly endorse a total communication approach in the education of deaf children, to commence at the earliest possible time between both parent and child in order to achieve its full environmental as well as educational force.

RESOLUTION 6

Whereas traditionally it has been assumed the only segment of the deaf population in need of counseling has been that which seeks assistance from the vocational rehabilitation counselor; and

Whereas ongoing counseling programs in effect at NTID, Gallaudet College, the Model Secondary School, and in some residential and day programs indicate this implication should be questioned; therefore

Be it resolved that PRWAD endorse and urge continued development of bona fide counseling programs in all schools for the deaf, day and residential.

RESOLUTION 7

Whereas the need for adequately trained personnel in the various disciplines serving deaf persons continues to be widespread and desperate; and

Whereas the Social and Rehabilitation Service has largely funded existing short and long-term training programs in counseling, interpreting, social work, psychology, religious service, vocational education, and the like, and has involved deaf consumer representatives in such steering and planning meetings; and

Whereas the various programs of the U.S. Office of Education as funded through the Bureau of Education of the Handicapped have in the past year evinced an increasing and commendable awareness to such needs and to deaf consumer involvement; be it therefore

Resolved that the PRWAD extend its appreciation and commendation to both the SRS and the U.S. Office of Education, but to request particularly that greater utilization and channeling of O.E. program divisions be made by the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped in the area of deafness and that every program so funded include the involvement of the deaf people they are to serve to ensure a necessary perspective and dimension. Be it further resolved that copies be directed to the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the U. S. Commissioner of Education, the Administrator of the Social and Rehabilitation Service, to Dr. James Garrett of SRS, and Dr. Edwin Martin of the BEH.