

Resolution 3
Mississippi Nurses' Association
106th House of Delegates
Biloxi Convention Center
Biloxi, MS

Introduced by: Sandra Arnold, MSN, RN, Board Secretary
on behalf of the MNA Board of Directors

RESOLUTION: Support Increasing Nurses Awareness of the Importance of
the Use of Age and Size Appropriate Car Seat or Booster Seat
to Prevent Child Injuries and Deaths

WHEREAS, Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses are committed to the promotion of health and safety issues of the public; and

WHEREAS, the purposes of the Mississippi Nurses' Association include working for the improvement of health standards (Article 1; Section 2.A.); and

WHEREAS, the functions of the Mississippi Nurses' Association include representing nurses and serving as their state spokesperson with allied professional, community, governmental groups, and with the public (Article 1; Section 3.L.); and

WHEREAS, motor vehicle injuries are a leading cause of death among children in the United States ¹; and

WHEREAS, child restraint systems are often used incorrectly with an estimated 46% of car and booster seats (59% of car seats and 20% of booster seats) are misused in a way that could reduce their effectiveness^{2,3}; and

WHEREAS, buckling children in age and size appropriate car seats or booster seats reduces the risk of serious and fatal injuries. Car seat use reduces the risk for death to infants (aged <1 year) by 71%; and to toddlers (aged 1-4 years) by 54% in passenger vehicles⁴; and booster seat use reduces the risk for serious injury by 45% for children aged 4-8 years when compared to seat belt use alone⁵; and

The Mississippi Nurses' Association, THEREFORE, RESOLVES, to increase awareness of the importance of using age and size appropriate car seats or booster seats to minimize injuries and death to children in vehicle accidents, as appropriate, through

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publication of articles in the MS RN, information disseminated via email, and information disseminated during continuing education events. Such efforts demonstrate registered nurse advocacy for the health of all the children of the great state of Mississippi.

¹ CDC. Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (<https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars>) [online]. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (producer). [2016 Aug 16].

² Greenwall, N. K., *Results of the National Child Restraint Use Special Study* (<http://www.nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/812142.pdf>). May 2015, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: Washington, D. C. p. 66.

³ Greenwall, N. K. *National Child Restraint Use Special Study (Traffic Safety Facts Research Note)* (<http://www.nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/812157.pdf>). June 2015, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: Washington, D. C. p. 2.

⁴ Durbin, D. R. (2011). Technical report – Child passenger safety (<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2011/03/21/peds.2011-0215.full.pdf>) *Pediatrics*, 127(4). Advance online publication.doi:10.1542/peds.2011-0215.

⁵ Arbogast KB, Jermakian JS, Kallan MJ, Durbin DR. Effectiveness of belt positioning booster seats: an updated assessment. *Pediatrics* 2009; 124; 1281 – 6.