

Position Statement on Proposed Legislation Permitting Guns on College and University Campuses

Approved by the Board of Trustees, July 2011

Approved by the Assembly, May 2011

"Policy documents are approved by the APA Assembly and Board of Trustees...These are...position statements that define APA official policy on specific subjects..." – *APA Operations Manual*.

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) and The American Psychiatric Association view the prohibition of guns on campus as a major public health initiative that is necessary to ensure the welfare and well-being of students at institutions of higher education, and opposes legislation that would increase the risk to these students by allowing guns to be carried on campus.

Prepared by Drs. Jerald Kay, Paul Appelbaum, and Victor Schwartz; Council on Children Adolescents and Their Families.