
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1031 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY DOWLING, BIZZARRO, READSHAW, NEILSON, MACKENZIE,
HILL-EVANS, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DAVIS, DIGIROLAMO, PICKETT,
KULIK, HENNESSEY, TOEPEL, CORBIN, SACONE, MILLARD, R. BROWN,
ROTHMAN, DAY, BOBACK, BERNSTINE, ROEBUCK, MENTZER, HAHN,
M. QUINN, LONGIETTI, ENGLISH, SAYLOR AND MARSICO,
SEPTEMBER 5, 2018

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 5, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of September 10 through 16, 2018, as "Boy
2 Scout and Cub Scout Sign-Up Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) provides the
4 nation's foremost youth program of character development and
5 value-based leadership training in approximately 280 local
6 councils; and

7 WHEREAS, Originating in England under the guidance of Lord
8 Robert Baden-Powell, Boy Scouts grew from Lord Baden-Powell's
9 desire to convert his military prowess into a nonmilitary nature
10 skills development opportunity for boys; and

11 WHEREAS, Newspaper publisher William D. Boyce lost his way in
12 a London fog and was aided by one of Lord Baden-Powell's young
13 scouts, becoming so impressed by the young fellow's skill and
14 cordiality that he founded the Boy Scouts of America on February
15 8, 1910, so that American boys could likewise develop survival

1 skills; and

2 WHEREAS, President William Howard Taft became the first
3 honorary president of the BSA and Theodore Roosevelt was the
4 organization's first honorary vice president; and

5 WHEREAS, For more than a century, boy scouting has been an
6 ongoing adventure that teaches a powerful set of real-life
7 skills and develops fundamental qualities that help young people
8 become "Prepared. For Life."; and

9 WHEREAS, Today, the organization is composed of nearly 2.5
10 million youth members between 6 and 20 years of age and has
11 approximately 960,000 volunteers in local councils throughout
12 the United States and its territories; and

13 WHEREAS, The BSA is a multilevel organization with
14 approximately 1.3 million Cub Scouts 7 to 10 years of age and
15 approximately 885,000 Boy Scouts 11 to 17 years of age; and

16 WHEREAS, Venturing and Exploring are additional BSA programs
17 that provide individuals under 21 years of age with adventure
18 and career experiences to further shape them into responsible
19 and caring adults; and

20 WHEREAS, The BSA offers rank advancement and merit badge
21 awards to foster athleticism, nature and survival skills and
22 citizenship development as a means of encouraging maturity,
23 capability and self-confidence; and

24 WHEREAS, The highest attainable rank in the BSA is Eagle
25 Scout; and

26 WHEREAS, Scouts must demonstrate proficiency in leadership,
27 service and outdoor skills at multiple levels before achieving
28 Eagle Scout rank; and

29 WHEREAS, In addition to the 21 life skills merit badges
30 required to earn Eagle Scout rank, each scout must complete an

1 extensive service project that he plans, organizes, leads and
2 manages before his 18th birthday; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2014, Eagle Scout projects provided more than
4 \$183 million in service to communities across the nation; and

5 WHEREAS, Collectively, scouts across America recorded more
6 than 14 million hours of service to their communities in 2014,
7 at a value of more than \$323 million; and

8 WHEREAS, Since joining the Messengers of Peace program in
9 2013, the BSA has joined scouts worldwide to contribute more
10 than 600 million hours of community service; and

11 WHEREAS, The mission of the BSA is to prepare young people to
12 make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling
13 the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law; and

14 WHEREAS, The Scout Oath states that, "On my honor I will do
15 my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the
16 Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself
17 physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight"; and

18 WHEREAS, Scout Law requires that a scout is "trustworthy,
19 loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful,
20 thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent"; and

21 WHEREAS, Many great citizens of our nation and Commonwealth
22 have been Boy Scouts, and 4% of them went on to receive the
23 Eagle Scout award; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
25 week of September 10 through 16, 2018, as "Boy Scout and Cub
26 Scout Sign-Up Week" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
28 important role the Boy Scouts of America plays in our nation and
29 in this Commonwealth.