

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 4

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

COMMENDATIONS: Commends the Boy Scouts of America for their public service and contributions to the lives of the nation's boys and young men

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Boy Scouts of America for the public service the organization performs through its contributions to the lives of the nation's boys and young men.

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts program was established in England in 1907 by Lord Robert Baden-Powell and currently serves twenty-eight million Scouts and their leaders in one hundred fifty-five countries around the globe; and

WHEREAS, scouting is the largest voluntary youth movement in the world, with a membership totaling more than twenty-five million; and

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America was founded on February 8, 1910, in Washington, D.C., by a group of visionary Americans led by William D. Boyce and was chartered by the United States Congress on June 15, 1916; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical choices throughout their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law, including a commitment to do their best, to do their duty to God and their country, and to keep themselves physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight; and

WHEREAS, scouting programs provide an educational program for boys and young men to build strong moral character, train in the responsibilities of participatory citizenship, and develop personal fitness; and

WHEREAS, scouting programs emphasize character development by offering young people unique and increasing opportunities to exercise leadership and responsibility and by the direct example of cheerful service provided by volunteer adult leaders; and

WHEREAS, the Boys Scouts of America teaches the core values of duty to God and country, personal honor, respect for the beliefs of others, volunteerism, and interdependence with the environment, principles which are conducive to good character, citizenship, and health; and

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America is a model for inclusiveness, with millions of boys and young men from every ethnic, religious, and economic background, including those with disabilities and special needs, participating in scouting programs across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States has ruled that the Boy Scouts of America, as a private, voluntary, non-business organization, has the right to set its own standards for membership and leadership; and

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America have always affirmed faith in God as foundational and essential to its purpose and mission, animated by Lord Baden-Powell's insight that "God has given us the great Book of Nature to read, and no one can say that there is untruth there—the facts stand before them"; and

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America enjoys a sustained record of proven success in producing leaders for our nation who are trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent; and

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America enjoys a sustained record of proven success in producing leaders for communities across Louisiana and the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America and the Louisiana Boy Scout Councils merit a special measure of commendation for their outstanding service to their communities, the state of Louisiana, and the United States of America.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Boy Scouts of America for its outstanding service at local, state, and national levels, does hereby express appreciation for the public service it performs through contributions to the lives of the nation's boys and

young men, and does hereby extend best wishes for its continued success in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the executives of the six Louisiana Boy Scout Councils.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES