

1 HR354
2 152590-1
3 By Representative Wren
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 24-APR-13

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7
8 RECOGNIZING THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA.
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10 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that the
11 Boy Scouts of America is recognized for the public service the
12 organization performs through its contributions to the lives
13 of boys and young men; and

14 WHEREAS, Scouting is one of the largest youth
15 organizations in the United States, with a membership
16 exceeding 2.7 million boys and young men and more than one
17 million adult volunteers; and

18 WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America was incorporated
19 on February 8, 1910, and recognized by Federal Charter on June
20 15, 1916, as an organization to provide an educational program
21 for boys and young men to build strong moral character, train
22 in the responsibilities of participatory citizenship, and
23 develop personal fitness; and

24 WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America teaches the core
25 values of duty to God and country, personal honor, respect for
26 the beliefs of others, volunteerism and service to others, and

1 interdependence with the environment, principles that are
2 conducive to good character, citizenship, and health; and

3 WHEREAS, since 1910, more than 111,000,000
4 individuals have been members of the Boy Scouts of America,
5 and there are eight councils in Alabama, including the
6 Alabama-Florida, Black Warrior, Chattahoochee, Choctaw,
7 Greater Alabama, Gulf Coast, Mobile Area, and Tuckabatchee
8 councils; and

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

14 WHEREAS, both the Boy Scout Oath and the Cub Scout
15 Promise extract a commitment from Scouts to serve God and
16 their country, to help other people, and to obey the Boy Scout
17 Law and the Cub Scout Law of the Pack; and

18 WHEREAS, more than one million adult volunteers
19 selflessly serve young people in their communities through
20 organizations chartered by the Boy Scouts of America; and

21 WHEREAS, the Supreme Court, in *Boy Scouts of America*
22 *et al. v. Dale*, has ruled that the Boy Scouts of America, as a
23 voluntary, nonbusiness organization, has the right to set its
24 own standards for membership and leadership; and

25 WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America has always
26 affirmed faith in God as foundational and essential to its
27 purpose and mission, animated by Lord Baden-Powell's insight

1 that "God has given us...the great Book of Nature to read; and
2 (no one can) say that there is untruth there--the facts stand
3 before them"; and

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

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
10 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That this body hereby recognizes
11 the Boy Scouts of America and expresses appreciation for the
12 public service the organization performs through its
13 contributions to the lives of boys and young men, and it is
14 directed that a copy of the resolution be provided to the Boy
15 Scouts of America.