

Rep. Potvin offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 19.

A resolution to declare February 3-9, 2013, as Boy Scout Week in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, The scouting program was founded in 1907 by Robert Baden-Powell in Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour, England, to encourage young men to develop personal goals and actively pursue their personal interests. After American journalist and publisher William Boyce learned of the scouting program on his visit to London, he was inspired to start one in America; and

Whereas, The Boy Scouts of America were incorporated on February 8, 1910 in New York City, received their federal charter as granted by the United States Congress in 1916, celebrated their 100th anniversary in 2010, and have awarded the rank of Eagle Scout to over two million scouts. Local packs, troops, and crews celebrate this rich history every year with Boy Scout Week; and

Whereas, The scouting program currently represents the largest voluntary youth movement in the world, with approximately 195 countries having scout programs. The Boy Scouts of America has 2.7 million registered scouts, over 1 million leaders, and over 100,000 registered units. Their goal is to train youth in responsible citizenship, character development, and self-reliance through participation in outdoor activities, educational programs, career-oriented programs, and community-service activities. Those scouts and leaders performed almost 12 million hours of service to their councils and communities, with nearly 1.1 million youth attending a council camp or national high-adventure camp last year; and

Whereas, The councils that make up the scouting community in Michigan are the Bay-Lakes Council and the Michigan Crossroads Council - with four field service councils being Great Lakes, President Gerald R. Ford, Southern Shores, and Water and Woods Field Service Councils. These councils will celebrate Boy Scout Week with a number of events, including Scout Sunday at local places of worship, community service projects, Courts of Honor, and flag-raising ceremonies. These endeavors will serve as a reminder of the vital impact the scouting program has on our communities; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare February 3-9, 2013, as Boy Scout Week in the state of Michigan. We recognize the great accomplishments and contributions that the scouting movement has had upon the character and development of Michigan's youth. We consider it a great privilege to celebrate this occasion and proudly extend tribute to all the leaders, parents, friends, family, and scouts who have made the Boy Scouts of America successful across our state; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Bay-Lakes Council, the Michigan Crossroads Council, and the national office of the Boy Scouts of America as evidence of the highest esteem given by the members of the Michigan Legislature and recognition of the profound impact this organization has had on countless lives in our state and nation.