

House Resolution 128

By: Representatives Cooper of the 43rd, Parrish of the 158th, Hatchett of the 150th, Meadows of the 5th, Raffensperger of the 50th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing March 1, 2017, as Boy Scout Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, scouting evolved during the early 1900s through the efforts of several men
3 dedicated to bettering youth who conceived a program of outdoor activities that developed
4 skills in young boys and gave them a sense of enjoyment, fellowship, and a code of conduct
5 for everyday living; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, First Baron Baden-Powell, known as
7 the founder of the Scouting Movement, wrote *Scouting for Boys*, which sparked the
8 formation of Scout troops across the world such that by 1922, there were more than a million
9 Scouts in 32 countries, and by 1939, the number of Scouts was in excess of 3.3 million; and
- 10 WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America endeavors to develop American citizens who are
11 physically, mentally, and emotionally fit; have a high degree of self-reliance as evidenced
12 in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness; have personal values based on
13 religious concepts; have the desire and skills to help others; understand the principles of the
14 American social, economic, and governmental systems; are knowledgeable about and take
15 pride in their American heritage and understand our nation's role in the world; have a keen
16 respect for the basic rights of all people; and are prepared to participate in and give
17 leadership to American society; and
- 18 WHEREAS, thousands of volunteer leaders across the United States, both men and women,
19 are involved in the Boy Scout program, serving in a variety of jobs, from unit leaders to
20 chairmen of troop committees and committee members, merit badge counselors, and
21 chartered organization representatives; and
- 22 WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America is the nation's foremost program of character
23 development and values based leadership training for youth, fostering the philosophy of duty

24 to God, country, and self and a commitment to others through a comprehensive program of
25 responsible fun, outdoor adventure, and service projects; and

26 WHEREAS, scouting has been an integral part of the lives of so many of our leaders and
27 men who have shaped America, such as George W. Bush, Dick Cheney, Sanford Bishop,
28 Sam Nunn, John Glenn, Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, Jimmy Stewart, Jimmy Buffet, Henry
29 "Hank" Aaron, Bill Gates, Sr., Steven Spielberg, John Tesh, and James A. Lovell, Jr.; and

30 WHEREAS, the Georgia Boy Scout program is organized into 11 councils: Chehaw Council,
31 Georgia-Carolina Council, Chattahoochee Council, Flint River Council, Northeast Georgia
32 Council, Central Georgia Council, Northwest Georgia Council, Coastal Empire Council,
33 Alpha Area Council, Okefenokee Council, and Atlanta Area Council; and

34 WHEREAS, such a worthwhile program deserves respect, admiration, gratitude, and
35 commendation for the impact it has had and continues to have on the character of the youth
36 of this state and this nation.

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
38 the members of this body commend the Boy Scouts of America for their many achievements
39 and contributions to the welfare of this state and recognize March 1, 2017, as Boy Scout Day
40 at the state capitol.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
42 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
43 Atlanta Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.