Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 176

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 126

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 176—Relative to the Girl Scouts of America Gold Award.

[Filed with Secretary of State August 16, 2016.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 176, Cristina Garcia. Girl Scouts of America Gold Award.

This measure would commend Girl Scouts of America upon the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scout Gold Award, applaud the vital role the organization has played in the lives of countless girls and young women, and extend best wishes for its continued success in the future.

WHEREAS, The year 2016 marks the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of America's Gold Award, the highest honor presented by the organization to its most exceptional scouts, and in recognition thereof it is appropriate to underscore the positive impact of this valued tradition and commend the efforts of the countless women who include themselves among the ever-growing community of Gold Award recipients; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1912—a time when women in the United States could not yet vote—as a single troop of 18 girls in Savannah, Georgia, Girl Scouts of America was conceived by Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low, who envisioned an organization that would prepare girls to meet the world with courage, confidence, and character. Providing girls and young women the opportunity to join together for companionship, community service, and participation in constructive and worthwhile group activities, the organization today encompasses nearly three million scouts in 92 countries and more than 59 million alumnae; and

WHEREAS, That same social consciousness continues today as the Girl Scouts promote the ideals of acceptance, understanding, cultural awareness, and tolerance; and

WHEREAS, A prestigious award that requires a true commitment to Girl Scouts and the completion of a community-oriented project that requires one to two years of effort, the Gold Award and its preceding equivalents have been awarded to more than one million girls since its inception in 1916. Recipients entering military service and university studies are presented greater opportunities and often distinguish themselves among their peers as clear leaders and role models; and

WHEREAS, The Gold Award originated as the Gold Eaglet insignia, which was used from 1916 to 1939, and as the organization evolved over the years, so too did the honor. Exemplary scouts earned the Curved Bar Award from 1940 to 1963, the First Class Award from 1963 to 1980, and,

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from 1980 to the present, the Gold Award, inspiring their peers to find greatness inside themselves and share their ideas and passions with their communities; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouts of America allows young girls to establish strong bonds of friendship and obtain a sense of "family" from within the group, and these girls go on to gain experiences and knowledge that may not otherwise be available to them; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature commends Girl Scouts of America upon the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scout Gold Award, applauds the vital role the organization has played in the lives of countless girls and young women, and extends best wishes for its continued success in the future; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.