

No. R-336. House concurrent resolution commemorating the Boy Scouts of America's centennial anniversary and the establishment of Boy Scouting in Vermont.

(H.C.R.244)

Offered by: Representatives Fagan of Rutland City, Koch of Barre Town, Adams of Hartland, Ainsworth of Royalton, Atkins of Winooski, Bissonnette of Winooski, Bohi of Hartford, Branagan of Georgia, Bray of New Haven, Brennan of Colchester, Canfield of Fair Haven, Clark of Vergennes, Clarkson of Woodstock, Clerkin of Hartford, Conquest of Newbury, Crawford of Burke, Deen of Westminster, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donaghy of Poultney, Donahue of Northfield, Evans of Essex, French of Randolph, Geier of South Burlington, Greshin of Warren, Helm of Castleton, Higley of Lowell, Howard of Cambridge, Hubert of Milton, Johnson of Canaan, Komline of Dorset, Krawczyk of Bennington, Krebs of South Hero, Lanpher of Vergennes, Lawrence of Lyndon, Leriche of Hardwick, Lewis of Derby, Lippert of Hinesburg, Macaig of Williston, Marcotte of Coventry, Martin of Springfield, Martin of Wolcott, McAllister of Highgate, McDonald of Berlin, McFaun of Barre Town, McNeil of Rutland Town, Minter of Waterbury, Morley of Barton, Morrissey of Bennington, Myers of Essex, Nease of Johnson, Obuchowski of Rockingham, O'Donnell of Vernon, Olsen of Jamaica, Partridge of Windham, Pearce of Richford, Peaslee of Guildhall, Perley of Enosburg, Reis of St. Johnsbury, Savage of Swanton, Scheuermann of Stowe, Shand of Weathersfield, Sharpe of Bristol, Spengler of Colchester, Stevens of Waterbury, Stevens of Shoreham, Sweaney of Windsor, Taylor of Barre City, Till of Jericho, Turner of Milton, Webb of Shelburne, Winters of Williamstown, Wright of Burlington and Zenie of Colchester

Offered by: Senators Ayer, Carris, Cummings, Flory, Giard, Hartwell, MacDonald and McCormack

Whereas, in the early 1900s, British General Robert Baden-Powell established the Boy Scout movement in Great Britain, and

Whereas, in 1909, prior to the establishment in 1910 of the national Boy Scouts of America, William Foster Milne, a stonemason who had immigrated to Barre from Aberdeen, Scotland, where he had been active in the fledgling scouting movement, established Troop #1 in Barre, and

Whereas, although the date October 29, 1909, is etched on a downtown Barre granite monument honoring Troop #1, the troop was probably formed several months earlier, and

Whereas, even if Troop #1 (the Boy Scout Club in Barre) was not actually the first Boy Scout Troop in the United States, a letter that Sir Francis Fletcher Vane, one of the early leaders of the Boy Scouts in Great Britain, wrote described Milne as “the First Scoutmaster in America,” and

Whereas, on October 29, 2009, the U.S. Postal Service established a temporary post office in the Aldrich Public Library in Barre and issued a special cancellation marking Troop #1’s historic role in Boy Scouting, and

Whereas, in coordination with this special postal cancellation, the Green Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts of America prepared a commemorative envelope to celebrate the occasion, and the City of Barre declared October 29, 2009, as Scout Day in Barre, and

Whereas, when William Boyce incorporated the Boy Scouts of America on February 8, 1910 in Washington, D.C., Troop #1 of Barre joined the national organization and continued to operate into the 1970s, and

Whereas, in 1916, the Boy Scouts of America became one of the few national youth groups to be granted a congressional charter, and

Whereas, under the auspices of the Green Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts of America and its four regional districts—Calvin Coolidge, Ethan

Allen, Long Trail, and Three Rivers—Boy Scouting continues to provide Vermont youth with valuable learning and recreational opportunities, and

Whereas, throughout the country, many celebratory events marking the centennial will take place during 2010, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the centennial anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America and of Boy Scouting in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the national office of the Boy Scouts of America in Irving, Texas, the Green Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts of America in Waterbury, the Aldrich Public Library, and Troop #1 historian Stephen Restelli in Barre.