

2015-K1377

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York upon the occasion of celebrating 100 years of the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest Award in Girl Scouts

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary organizations it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York upon the occasion of celebrating 100 years of the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest Award in Girl Scouts; and

WHEREAS, With the Gold Award Centennial upon us, Girl Scouts invites alumnae and supporters everywhere to join together and Celebrate 100 Years of Changing the World; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception in 1916, the Girl Scout Gold Award has stood for excellence and leadership for girls throughout the world; girls who pursue the Gold Award aspire to transform an original idea and vision for change into an actionable plan with far-reaching and sustainable results; and

WHEREAS, In order to earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, a girl in grades 9-12 must fulfill five requirements; chief among them is the design and completion of a Gold Award Project; this project must build upon the interests of the girl, provide a service to the community, and be of lasting benefit; and

WHEREAS, The Girl Scout Movement began on March 12, 1912, when Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low, a native of Savannah, Georgia, organized a

group of 18 girls and provided them with the opportunity to develop physically, intellectually, socially, and spiritually; and

WHEREAS, Daisy Low strived to bring together girls of all backgrounds to develop self-reliance and resourcefulness, and to prepare each girl for a future role as a professional woman and active citizen outside the home; and

WHEREAS, Shortly after the inception of the Girl Scout Movement, it was decided that there should be a special recognition for those girls who represented the very best of Girl Scouts; girls who, through their courage, tenacity, dedication, and skill, took action in their communities with an impact that was at once immediate and sustainable; and

WHEREAS, A century ago, the Golden Eaglet was introduced in celebration of these girls, and though the name has changed over the years, from the Golden Eaglet to the Curved Bar Award, to First Class, and, for the past 35 years, the Gold Award, the conviction, dynamism, and idealism it takes to earn the highest award in Girl Scouting have not; and

WHEREAS, The Gold Award, like the girls who earn them and the projects they undertake, stands as an enduring symbol of the fortitude and personal strength of a Girl Scout, demonstrating clearly the tangible, real-world impact that participating in Girl Scouts can have on a girl's life, and by extension, her community and our world; and

WHEREAS, Comparable to an Eagle Scout, a girl who earns the Girl Scout Gold Award joins an elite circle of fewer than six percent of Girl Scouts annually, and may be eligible for advanced rank when enlisting in the United States Armed Forces, or for scholarships at some universities and colleges; and

WHEREAS, According to the Girl Scout Research Institute Study, "The Power of the Girl Scout Gold Award: Excellence in Leadership and Life,"

Gold Award recipients report a more positive sense of self, are more engaged civically and in community service, have more confidence in their leadership abilities, and experience greater life satisfaction and

success relative to their non-Gold Award peers; and

WHEREAS, For 100 years, the Girl Scout Gold Award has acknowledged each young woman's power and dedication to not only bettering herself, but to making the world a better place for others; millions of Girl Scout Gold Award recipients have positively impacted their communities and the world with their creative, impactful, and sustainable Take Action projects; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body acknowledges the incredible influence that Girl Scout Gold Award beneficiaries have had on American life and on our World throughout the last 100 years; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend individuals of outstanding character, who have shown initiative and commitment toward constantly pursuing higher goals for themselves, and acting as role models of leadership to be emulated by both peers and young people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York upon the occasion of celebrating 100 years of the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest Award in Girl Scouts; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York.