

House Bill 1356

Rep Pat Hernandez

Good Morning:

I am proud to be here today to discuss HB 1356, a bill to allow Boy & Girl Scout organizations to come into our schools and present to our youth a program that will benefit them for the rest of their lives. I know the age bracket that would be receiving this presentation will not totally understand that scouting will be good for them for the rest of their lives, but someday they will appreciate becoming a scout.

HB 1356 will allow Boy & Girl Scouts officials into the school building to make a presentation about scouting. This will occur once a year and in the first quarter of the school year. The day and time must be established in cooperation with the school principle in advance. The scouts designated official will be provided a time during the school day for the presentation.

Scouting officials have said that the presentation will take about ten to fifteen minutes.

The presentations are designed for the early grades of school.

Scouting provides our youth with skills like leadership, goal setting, time management, project management and the ability to earn up to 150 merit badges.

Just this past weekend I ran into a former employee and his young family. Their daughter is in girl scouts and recently sold a ton of cookies. The parents made the young lady write thank you notes to the many people who bought from her (another learning experience). The parents told me that they are so happy that the school they attend had information about

scouting. They said that their daughter has gained so much confidence and has made such good friends in scouts that they are just amazed.

As a Life Scout and member of the Order of the Arrow, I urge your support for this beneficial program for our youth.

Thank You.