

March 24, 2026

Good afternoon, Chairman McNamara and members of the Committee.

My name is Jordan Silva and I serve as the Director of Membership for Girl Scouts of Southeastern New England. My home address is 29 Harding Ave Warwick.

I want to take a moment to speak to why access to schools is so critical for Girl Scouts, not just for recruitment, but for equity.

When our organization is able to connect with students through schools, we see real membership growth and retention. Schools are where families are already paying attention and where trusted information is shared. Without that access, we primarily reach families who already know us - leaving many girls behind in a world where this is already happening too often.

This especially impacts immigrant families and those new to our communities. Many of these families value leadership, education, and service, but Girl Scouting simply isn't on their radar. Not because of a lack of interest, but because no one has ever introduced it to them.

Schools are often the first, and sometimes only, place where those doors can open.

House Bill 7894 isn't about promoting one organization. It's about ensuring that every girl, regardless of background, has a fair chance to discover opportunities that help her belong, lead, and grow.

Because a girl can't choose an opportunity she never knew existed - and we owe her the chance to know.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jordan Silva

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

Director of Membership

