In an effort to provide you with the latest information from four of our largest chartered organizations below you will find the most up to date statement from The LDS Church, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, United Methodist Men, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

LDS Church:

"The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is carefully assessing the consequences of the policy change on the church's program to build and strengthen young men, but it has not commented on it and a decision will not be made until we have assessed all of the implications. "

http://www.mormonnewsroom.org/article/church-cautions-against-speculation-on-scouting-decision

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:

We would hope that the Boy Scouts of America will continue to provide young people a formative experience grounded in the virtue of and directed by service to God and others. Organizations a have a duty to select leaders that model virtues and core values with integrity; Catholic chartered units will continue to provide leaders who promote and live Catholic values.

http://www.nccs-bsa.org/BSAComment.htm

General Commission on United Methodist Men:

"We would ask that these new membership proposals being considered at the May, 2013 Annual Meeting of the BSA not be implemented at this time. More time is needed for the 50 United Methodist Annual Conferences and thousands of United Methodist churches to research in a thoughtful and prayerful manner exactly what this change might mean."

Southern Baptist Convention:

The Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee unanimously passed a resolution that criticizes Boy Scouts leadership for trying to change the policy on homosexuality but also urges the Scout's voting members to uphold the current policy.

http://m.bpnews.net/bpnews.asp?id=39734

Link to MOU'S, BSA Factsheets and Annual Charter Agreement

http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Membership/Charter Partners.aspx



Chartered Organizations and the Boy Scouts of America

F A C T

S H E T

Boy Scouts of America Research & Program Innovation 1325 W. Walnut Hill Lane Irving, TX 75038 research.team@scouting.org

Overview of Chartered Organizations

- Civic, faith-based, and educational organizations operate Scouting units to deliver the programs to their youth members, as well as the community at large.
- Over 100,000 Scouting units are owned and operated by chartered organizations.
 Of these:
 - 70.3 percent of all units are chartered to faith-based organizations.
 - 22.0 percent of all units are chartered to civic organizations.
 - 7.6 percent of all units are chartered to educational organizations.
- Responsibilities of chartered organizations include:
 - · Providing adequate meeting facilities.
 - · Providing quality leadership for the Scouting unit.
 - Appointing a chartered organization representative to coordinate all Scouting unit operations within the organization.

Faith-Based Chartered Organizations

The 25 faith-based organizations with the largest Scouting youth membership (Source: 2012 Boy Scouts of America Local Council Index, using December 31, 2012, membership data):

Name of Organization	Total Units	Total Youth
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints'	37855	430,557
United Methodist Church*	10,868	363,876
Catholic Churchi	8,397	273,648
Presbyterian Church*	3,597	125,523
Lutheran Church	3,827	116,417
Baptist Churches*	3,981	108,353
Episcopal Church	1,179	41,407
United Church of Christ, Congregational Church	1,191	38,225
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	1,165	33,944
Community Churches	1,054	32,311
Church of Christ	546	15,430
Evangelical/independent churches	294	7,899
Church of God	237	5,241
Church of the Nazarene	156	4,181
Reformed Church in America	127	4,077



Chartered Organizations and the Boy Scouts of America

Faith-Based Organizations (cont.)

Name of Organization	Total Units	Total Youth	
Jewish synagogues and centers'	156	3,738	
Church of the Brethren	101	2,759	
African Methodist Episcopal	149	2,416	
The Salvation Army	130	2,233	
Islam, Muslim, Masjid*	78	2,222	
Assemblies of God*	91	2,193	
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church	95	1,970	
Community of Christ	61	1,899	
Pentecostal Churches	107	1,830	
Other churches	879	23,910	
*Individual fact sheet available			

Civic Chartered Organizations

The 20 civic organizations or groups with the largest Scouting youth membership (Source: 2012 Boy Scouts of America Local Council Index, using December 31, 2012, membership data):

Name of Organization	Total Units	Total Youth
Groups of citizens	3,115	100,751
American Legion and Auxiliary	2,553	68,154
Business/industry	2,807	66,454
Lions International	2,271	64,563
Rotary International	1,333	42,922
VFW, Auxiliary, Cootie	1,084	31,199
Fire departments	1,176	30,819
Kiwanis International	889	28,547
Elks lodges (BPOE)	778	21,967
Community centers	925	21,258
Boys' and Girls' Clubs	569	19,177



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Chartered Organizations and the Boy Scouts of America

Civic Chartered Organizations (cont.)

Name of Organization	Total Units	Total Youth 16,662
Nonprofit agencies	603	
Playgrounds, recreation centers	444	11,610
Athletic booster clubs	389	11,416
Chambers of commerce, business associations	358	10,553
Homeowner's associations	268	9,519
Optimist International	246	8,804
YWCA, YMCA	312	8,738
Masons-Eastern Star	296	8,664
Other community organizations	1,656	45,891

Educational Chartered Organizations

Source: 2012 Boy Scouts of America Local Council Index, using December 31, 2012, membership data:

Name of Organization	Total Units	Total Youth	
Parent-teacher groups other than PTAs	3,443	144,219	
Private schools	2,802	103,254	
Parent-Teacher Associations/Parent-Teacher Organizations	1,561	65,567	

T S H E T

THE ANNUAL CHARTER AGREEMENT BETWEEN:

(

Name of organization				·	Council, BSA	
☐ Pack	☐ Troop	☐ Team	☐ Crew	☐ Ship	No.	
or group The BSA in their u	s to use Scout A local council ;	ing as part or provides the	of their serv support se	ice to their ervice nece	r own me	t charters community or religious organizations mbers, as well as the community at large. help the chartered organization succeed ocal council and the chartered group are
The ch	artered org	anization	agrees t	0	The co	ouncil agrees to
•	Conduct the Sown policies are Boy Scouts of	nd guidelines			•	Respect the aims and objectives of the organization and offer the resources of Scouting to help in meeting those objectives.
•	Include Scouting as part of its overall program for youth and families. Consider organizing a program to meet the developmental needs for every age			program	•	Make available year-round training, service, and program resources to the organization and its unit(s).
	level served. Appoint a chardened who is a mer coordinate all un represent the cand serve as a (The chartered organization releader applicareferences and with youth in checked before the local counces of the chartered of the c	artered organiber of the nit operations organization to voting member of organization epresentativations and lany previou other organization (nit is select unit as she BSA. (Tilleadership or the charte facilities for regular schedult of particular schedult of particular schedult of particular schedult of the charte facilities for regular schedult of the particular schedult of the charte facilities for regular schedult of the charte facilities for regular schedult of the charteness of the selection of the charteness of the selection of the charteness of the selection of the sele	nization reprogranization within it. He to the Scouting of the local in head or one must apply verify that is experience in head or one must apply verify that is experience in head or one in head or on	esentative and will or she will and district all council. Chartered prove all personal e working ave been cation to embers of hree) who meet the eadership ee chair s before anization and unit(s) time and		Make avaliable training and support for the chartered organization representative as the primary communication link between the organization and the BSA. Make available techniques and methods for selecting quality unit leaders. Provide primary general liability insurance to cover the chartered organization, its board, officers, chartered organization representative, employees and volunteers currently registered with Boy Scouts of America. Coverage is provided with respect to the claims arising out of an official Scouting activity with the exception that the coverage is excess over any insurance which may be available to the volunteer for loss arising from the ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle or watercraft. This insurance is only available while the vehicle or watercraft is in the actual use of a Scouting unit and being used for an official Scouting activity. The insurance provided unregistered Scouting volunteers through the BSA general liability insurance program is excess over any other insurance the volunteer might have to his or her benefit, usually a homeowner's, personal liability, or auto liability insurance. Provide camping facilities, a service center, and a full-time professional staff to assist the organization in every way possible.
Signed _	For the	chartered orga	nization			For the BSA local council
		Date _			-	
		Golder		er side for		n guide.

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BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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Chartered Organization Discussion Between the Executive Officer and the Professional Scouter

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The discussion between the professional Scouter and the executive officer of a chartered organization is an opportunity that should not be delegated to anyone else. This annual visit should be scheduled at least 90 days prior to the renewal date of the unit's charter. If problems in rechartering the unit are anticipated or there is significant corrective action to be taken, the discussion should be held early enough to allow time to take positive corrective action before the renewal deadline.

The meeting must be a face-to-face discussion, since the concept of working together is central to our mutual long-term success. Have a video player available to view the Scouting: It Works for Your Youth DVD, No. 522-915.

Agenda

- 1. Review the brochure Scouting: It Works for Your Youth, No. 04-512A, together. Discuss how the chartered organization and the local council are working together.
- 2. Review highlights or concerns.
 - a. The chartered organization representative
 - Is the chartered organization representative carrying out his or her function well?
 - b. Quality unit leadership
 - What is the training status of the unit leaders?
 - Is two-deep leadership in place?
 - If there are vacancies, the head of the chartered organization will need to approve quality leadership to fill them, including the verification of references.
 - c. Unit committee
 - Is it meeting regularly?
 - Is the committee functioning well?
 - d. Unit program
 - is the unit a Centennial Quality Unit?
 - Discuss advancement, membership, summer activities, and *Boys' Life* magazine subscriptions.
 - e. Chartered organization's mission
 - Does the unit support the aims and mission of the chartered organization?
 - Is there a need for an additional new unit in the chartered organization?
 - f. Charter review process
 - Review charter renewal meeting agenda and charter presentation ceremony and set tentative dates.

See other side for charter agreement.





JESUS CHRIST

Newsroom The Official resource for News Media, Opinion Leaders and the public

Church Cautions Against Speculation On Scouting Decision

SALT LAKE CITY ---

For 100 years, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has enjoyed a strong, rewarding relationship with Boy Scouts of America as both organizations have worked to build and strengthen the moral character and leadership skills of young men.

The recent announcement that BSA planned to make a policy change in its standards for membership and leadership has triggered intense debate from many segments of society. We believe BSA has acted wisely in delaying a vote on this policy issue until the implications can be more carefully evaluated.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is carefully assessing the consequences of this policy change on the Church's program to build and strengthen young men, but it has not commented on it and a decision will not be made until we have assessed all of the implications. We caution others not to speculate about our position or to assume that individual Latter-day Saints inside or outside the Scouting movement speak for the Church. Neither has the Church launched any campaign either to effect or prevent a policy change.

STYLE GUIDE NOTE: When reporting about The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, please use the complete name of the Church in the first reference. For more information on the use of the name of the Church, go to our online style guide.



National Catholic Committee on Scouting®

Delivering Catholic Youth Ministry using BSA programs

Statement Regarding February 6, 2013 Announcement from the Boy Scouts of America

"For over 100 years the Boy Scouts of America has provided a wonderful opportunity for boys and young men to develop character and virtue and to exemplify the values of service, community, friendship, leadership, and fundamental duty to God. Young people need supportive formation encouraged by a community of peers and virtuous leaders. We would hope that the Boy Scouts of America will continue to provide young people a formative experience grounded in virtue and directed by service to God and others. All leaders and organizations that serve young people have a responsibility to protect and foster a life of virtue according to their particular mission. Organizations have a duty to select leaders that model virtues and core values with integrity; Catholic chartered units will continue to provide leaders who promote and live Catholic values. This is a matter of responsibility, not a matter of unjust discrimination which is always wrong and contrary to the inviolable dignity of every human person. The National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) will participate in the Boy Scouts of America's initiative to listen to its members' concerns regarding a change in its membership policy. The NCCS will offer input based on Catholic teachings and values."

Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmone United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Liaison to the National Catholic Committee on Scouting February 19, 2013

Wayne Brock, Chief Scout Executive Boys Scouts of America P.O. Box 152079 Irving, TX 75015-2079



Dear Mr. Brock and the voting Delegates to the BSA Annual Meeting,

For decades, General Commission on United Methodist Men (GCUMM) has had as a primary goal, a core value, to expand scouting ministries throughout the UMC. For many youth the UMC is the entry point for an exciting journey to discipleship. There is no argument within the UMC that scouting as a ministry is a mark of vitality.

Since BSA announced a possible change in their membership policy dealing with homosexuality, our office has received many phone calls and emails. We realize in the United Methodist Church there are people who have differing opinions on this issue. There are many questions of legal implications, and questions about how this new rule would be managed in our local churches. Many see this change to be in conflict with their understanding of Scripture. Many have stated they will terminate their relationship with BSA, as a leader and as donors. Many have expressed anger that our church was not brought into this discussion as this change was being considered. A few have told us they support this proposed change by BSA; however, overall, the responses have been overwhelmingly against the proposed change.

This potential shift from BSA places GCUMM's primary goal, our core value- expansion and retention- at risk. If approved, scouting programs would decrease, and new programs would be harder to begin due to the uncertainty this proposal has generated. There has not been adequate time for GCUMM or individual church/charter organizations to fully explore the legal and spiritual consequences of these proposed changes. For these reasons, on this date, the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the GCUMM affirmed unanimously these two requests of BSA:

- We would ask that these new membership proposals being considered at the May, 2013 Annual
 Meeting of BSA not be implemented at this time. More time is needed for the 50 United Methodist
 Annual Conferences and the thousands of United Methodist churches to research in a thoughtful and
 prayerful manner exactly what this change might mean.
- 2. We would further ask that this be the beginning of a new relationship between BSA and the faith communities that provide over 70% of the units and 62% of the membership in BSA. Ongoing work must grow from this experience as BSA and their ministry partners seek ways to implement a new, strengthened, faith-filled response to the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Mr. Brock, please forward this letter to all voting members of the upcoming Annual Meeting. Feel free to contact our Nashville office if you have questions.

In His service,

Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr.

President, GCUMM

General Secretary, GCUMM



Scout leadership criticized in EC resolution

Posted on Feb 20, 2013 | by Michael Foust

NASHVILLE (BP) -- The Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee Tuesday unanimously passed a resolution that criticizes Boy Scouts leadership for trying to change the policy on homosexuality but also urges the Scouts' voting members to uphold the current policy in May.

The resolution also commends the Southern Baptists' Royal Ambassadors program "irrespective" of what the Scouts ultimately decide.

The Boy Scouts executive board appeared poised in early February to lift its prohibition on gay Scout leaders and members and replace it with a "local option," whereby each sponsoring organization would decide the policy. But facing pressure from its base, the board decided to put the matter before its 1,400 voting members at the national convention in May.

"We applaud the many Scouts, Scout families, Scouting leaders, host church leaders, and other interested individuals for raising their voices with courage by contacting the national leadership and national board of the Boy Scouts of America," the resolution states. "... [W]e call on and urge the representatives of the approximately 1,400 voting members of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America courageously to stand strong on their moral convictions and vote to reject the proposed resolution from the national Scouting leaders, retaining the current policy of moral rectitude that has marked the Boy Scouts of America for more than one hundred years."

The resolution is critical of Boy Scouts leadership, noting that in January Executive Committee President Frank Page learned in a conference call with Boy Scouts leadership that they "had been working behind the scenes for many months to reverse this policy" while "keeping the more conservative majority of the scouting family in the dark concerning their initiative." That, the resolution states, amounted to "breaking trust with the very Scout Oath and Law they pledge to uphold."

The Executive Committee, the resolution says, expresses "its deep dismay and disappointment at the conduct of any Boy Scout leader who openly or surreptitiously built support for their proposal to reverse the Scouts historic position on this issue, thereby alienating conservative religious bodies that sponsor the vast majority of Boy Scout units."

Lifting the policy, the resolution says, would "increase legal exposure" for any "chartered or sponsoring organization" which decides to uphold the biblical view of

sexuality. The resolution also says that "should this new policy be adopted, dues from all local Scout troops and chapters would flow upward to help fund a national organization that would no longer share the complementary values once espoused by all chartered groups within the Boy Scouts of America."

Further, if the Boy Scouts change their policy, it would place them "at odds with a consistent biblical worldview on matters of human sexuality, making it an organization that would no longer complement, but rather contradict, belief in God and His moral precepts that serve as the basis for our Christian faith."

The resolution also calls on "business and corporate leaders who believe in the values of sexual purity, human morality, and biblical righteousness to render financial support for the Boy Scouts of America."

The resolution mentions the Royal Ambassadors, the Southern Baptist missions organization for boys in grades 1-6.

"[I]rrespective of the decision of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, we continue to lift up and commend Royal Ambassadors as a Christian values-based organized that, for 105 years, has taught Christian values to boys in Southern Baptist churches, educating at least two million boys in biblical missionary principles and winning tens of thousands to faith in Christ through chapter meetings, Royal Ambassador camps, and other Royal Ambassador activities," it says.

Following is the full text of the resolution:

RESOLUTION ON THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA'S PROPOSAL TO CHANGE ITS MEMBERSHIP AND LEADERSHIP POLICIES

WHEREAS, The Boy Scouts of America has, for the past 103 years, been a values-based organization designed to "prepare young people for a lifetime of character and leadership," equipping them "to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law"; and

WHEREAS, The Scout Oath and Law contains language that complements, and is not contradictory to, belief in God and His moral precepts that serve as the basis for Christian faith ("On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight."); and

WHEREAS, The leadership of the Boy Scouts has, for these 103 years, restricted from membership and leadership those persons whose presence would affect in a significant way the group's ability to advocate "public or private viewpoints" in regard to belief in God and His moral precepts; and

WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the United States ruled in 2000 that opposition to homosexuality is part of BSA's "expressive message," and that allowing homosexuals as adult leaders would interfere with that message (Boy Scouts of America et al. v. Dale); and

WHEREAS, In 2004, the BSA adopted a policy statement that said, in part, "Boy Scouts of America believes that homosexual conduct is inconsistent with the obligations in the Scout Oath and Scout Law to be morally straight and clean in thought, word, and deed."; and

WHEREAS, In 2012, an eleven-person committee convened by the national council of the Boy Scouts completed a two-year study and reported its unanimous consensus that the Boy Scouts retain the current policy as outlined above; and

WHEREAS, It was reported by NBC News as a breaking news story on January 28, 2013, that the Boy Scouts were poised to change their historic policy at their February board meeting, scheduled for February 4-6, 2013; and

WHEREAS, On January 28, 2013, it was learned in a conference telephone call that included Frank S. Page, president and CEO of the SBC Executive Committee, and the three top leaders of the Boy Scouts of America that Scout leadership had been working behind the scenes for many months to reverse this policy, seeking input from activists and disaffected elements of the broader scouting family while keeping the more conservative majority of the scouting family in the dark concerning their initiative, thereby breaking trust with the very Scout Oath and Law they pledge to uphold; and

WHEREAS, During the week between when news broke of this proposed policy change and the February board meeting, the Boy Scouts received "an outpouring of feedback from the American public"; and

WHEREAS, On February 6, 2013, the national board of the Boy Scouts of America determined that, "due to the complexity of this issue, the organization needs time for a deliberate review of its membership policy"; and

WHEREAS, The national BSA board has stated its intent to "further engage representatives of Scouting's membership and listen to their perspectives and concerns" and to allow the "approximately 1,400 voting members of the National Council" to "take action on the resolution at the National Annual Meeting in May 2013"; and

WHEREAS, The Boy Scouts of America is organized as a hierarchical structure in which authority flows downward from the national organization to keep the program consistent across the country and make the movement of members from one Scout unit to another possible; and

WHEREAS, This proposed policy provides for each chartered organization—in many instances sponsored by a religious, civic, educational, or other community-based organization -- to determine for itself how to address the issue of homosexual membership and leadership, a tenuous position that would allow divergence from the historic, hierarchical structure of the Boy Scouts and increase legal exposure for its chartered or sponsoring organizations; and

WHEREAS, Should this new policy be adopted, dues from all local Scout troops and chapters would flow upward to help fund a national organization that would no longer share the complementary values once espoused by all chartered groups within the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Biblical teaching is clear that human sexuality is expressed most nobly and appropriately as a monogamous marital relationship between one man and one woman for life; and

WHEREAS, If adopted, the resolution will place the Boy Scouts organization at odds with a consistent biblical worldview on matters of human sexuality, making it an organization that would no longer complement, but rather contradict, belief in God and His moral precepts that serve as the basis for our Christian faith; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention express its deep dismay and disappointment at the conduct of any Boy Scout leader who openly or surreptitiously built support for their proposal to reverse the Scouts historic position on this issue, thereby alienating conservative religious bodies that sponsor the vast majority of Boy Scout units; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we applaud the many Scouts, Scout families, Scouting leaders, host church leaders, and other interested individuals for raising their voices with courage by contacting the national leadership and national board of the Boy Scouts of America; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we call on and urge the representatives of the approximately 1,400 voting members of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America courageously to stand strong on their moral convictions and vote to reject the proposed resolution from the national Scouting leaders, retaining the current policy of moral rectitude that has marked the Boy Scouts of America for more than one hundred years; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we call on business and corporate leaders who believe in the values of sexual purity, human morality, and biblical righteousness to render financial support for the Boy Scouts of America, sending a strong signal to those corporations that have pressured the Scouts to capitulate to popular culture by

financial coercion; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That, irrespective of the decision of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, we continue to lift up and commend Royal Ambassadors as a Christian values-based organized that, for 105 years, has taught Christian values to boys in Southern Baptist churches, educating at least two million boys in biblical missionary principles and winning tens of thousands to faith in Christ through chapter meetings, Royal Ambassador camps, and other Royal Ambassador activities.

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Michael Foust is associate editor of Baptist Press. Get Baptist Press headlines and breaking news on Twitter (@BaptistPress), Facebook (Facebook.com/BaptistPress) and in your email (baptistpress.com/SubscribeBP.asp).

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