

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 16, 2026

The Honorable Pete Hegseth
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Secretary Hegseth,

On December 5, 2025, we outlined our concerns over reports that the military was considering cutting ties with Scouting America, including withdrawing support from the National Jamboree. Our letter highlighted the century of partnership between Boy Scouts, Scouting America and the military, including the values of citizenship, service, and leadership that it instills in the next generation. Moreover, our letter highlighted the successful scouting pipeline into the military – as evidenced by the number of West Point cadets with Eagle Scout badges. But, as of March 16, 2026, we have yet to receive a response.

We now write not only to follow up on the December 5, 2025 letter, but to raise additional concerns following your February 27, 2026 video, in which the Department of War “officially put Scouting America on notice.” The video makes the Department’s future support for Scouting America conditioned on meeting new requirements in an evaluation after six months. In the video, it is stated that the Department was “very seriously considering ending our support of scouting altogether.”

Our constituents and federal statute demand unconditional support for Scouting America, and we strongly urge the Department to continue this partnership beyond the six-month deadline. Cutting this partnership could impact the thousands of young Americans across our districts who participate, and, as President Trump himself said in 2017, the “United States has no better citizens than its Boy Scouts.” Additionally, the Support our Scouts Act, passed in the 109th Congress, prohibits the reduction of support from year-to-year.

As noted in the social media video, six Scouts have been elected President. Eleven of the twelve people who walked on the moon were Scouts. Once again, we strongly urge you to continue the Department’s support of Scouting America.

We look forward to your response.

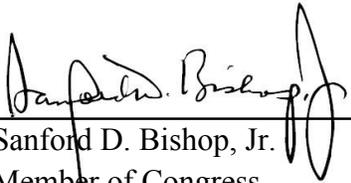
Sincerely,



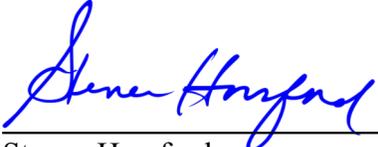
Sahas Subramanyam
Member of Congress

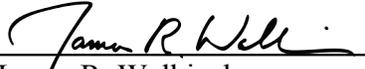


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