

By Senator Sebesta

20-1304-01

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to youth organizations;  
3           creating the "Defense of Scouting Act";  
4           prohibiting governmental agencies from placing  
5           specified limitations on certain youth  
6           organizations; providing an effective date.

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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10           Section 1. (1) This act may be cited as the "Defense  
11 of Scouting Act."

12           (2) As used in this section, the term, "youth  
13 organization" means any private nonprofit corporation the  
14 general mission of which is to instill in young people values  
15 including patriotism, adherence to ethical and moral  
16 principles, physical health, and mental development through a  
17 program of instruction, engagement in outdoor activities, and  
18 community service.

19           (3) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the  
20 contrary, neither the state nor any political subdivision  
21 thereof nor agency thereof may deny any youth organization or  
22 local chapter or affiliate thereof access to or the use of  
23 public facilities or eligibility for charitable grants or  
24 contributions otherwise authorized by law based upon such  
25 organization's requiring, as a condition of membership or  
26 employment, adherence to lawful standards of ethics and morals  
27 expressed by the organization.

28           Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
29 law.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Prohibits governmental agencies from placing limitations on access to facilities and funds by certain youth organizations.