

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 8, 2015

Anna Maria Chávez
Chief Executive Officer
Girl Scouts of the USA
420 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10018-2798

Dear Ms. Chávez:

We write to you today to congratulate the Girl Scouts of Orange County for creating the first ever My STEM Life badge and to encourage Girl Scout Troops all over the country to do the same.

Girl Scouts of the USA has a long and proud legacy of empowering girls to become effective leaders in their families and communities. With badges in everything from first aid to entrepreneurship and even public policy, we hope that Girl Scout troops around the country will also encourage girls to pursue their interest in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) by creating a badge like the My STEM Life badge.

Although women fill close to half of all jobs in the U.S. economy, we know they fill less than 25 percent of the jobs in STEM fields.¹ Encouraging girls to consider pursuing a career in STEM will not only benefit those girls personally and professionally, it will also help move our economy forward as they use their skills to cure diseases, explain the mysteries of the universe, or keep our country safe.

We are proud to support the Girl Scouts of the USA and our local Girl Scout troops. We look forward to seeing even more girls encouraged to explore the STEM fields.

Sincerely,



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Dana Rohrabacher
Member of Congress

¹ <http://www.esa.doc.gov/sites/default/files/womeninstemagaptoinnovation8311.pdf>

Cheri Bustos
Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress

Donna F. Edwards
Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress

Barbara Comstock
Barbara Comstock
Member of Congress

Eddie Bernice Johnson
Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress

Mark Takano
Mark Takano
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Katherine M. Clark
Katherine Clark
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Gregory W. Meeks
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Mimi Walters
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Randy Hultgren
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Paul Tonko
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Michael M. Honda
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Bob Dold
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Alan Grayson
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Lamar Smith
Member of Congress