



Agenda Item Identification Code
(For National Board Office only):

Girl Scouts of the USA
420 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10018-2798

Agenda Item Submission Form 58th National Council Session

Name of Girl Scout Council(s)

Girl Scouts of Alaska

City

Anchorage

State

AK

If a group of councils is submitting a single agenda item, all councils must be listed on this form.

Is this council(s) submitting a ☒ Discussion Topic or ☐ Proposal?

Is this a ☐ draft or a ☒ final submission?

Write the following information exactly as the council wishes it to appear in the *Workbook* if accepted for the agenda.

TITLE OF PROPOSAL OR DISCUSSION TOPIC

Hardship relief for councils

STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL OR DISCUSSION TOPIC, QUESTION, OR ISSUE

(Proposals should be written in the form of a motion)

TOPIC, QUESTION, OR ISSUE Topic

Councils can face extreme hardship for several reasons, including natural disasters, large membership loss, etc. This proposal would require Girl Scouts USA to establish a method of application for financial relief for councils with extreme needs. (Define “extreme”) GSUSA would forgive, cancel licensing payments, and cover membership fees for councils for hardship relief for a determined period of time.

or

THAT

or

TO

REASONS:

1. What is the issue the discussion topic or proposal is trying to address?
2. Are there other ways to address this issue?
3. How does this proposal improve Movement governance or policy? OR How does this discussion topic inform Movement strategy?
4. Does this agenda item have Movement-wide significance? Does it apply to all councils?
5. Is this agenda item time-sensitive? What happens if it is not addressed at NCS 58?

With several natural disasters (North Carolina's Hurricane and floods and California's fires) and some councils facing financial hardship, there needs to be a method of application for hardship relief to local councils experiencing extreme need.

Examples might be loss of structure due to unforeseen damage. These damages could also affect membership or loss of product. Said losses could result in catastrophic loss of staff or revenues.

Establish extreme hardship fund at GSUSA. Councils with extreme need could apply for temporary financial relief which would include GSUSA pausing/forgiving licensing fees and covering membership fees for a determine period of time while reorganization or rebuilding is in progress. Councils would apply for relief and be awarded based on level of need, council size, etc.

This proposal improves council relations and allows the council to reorganize without additional financial burdens.

This would apply to all councils as need arises. This is not time critical. The two examples are past events; however, disasters occur, this should be presently addressed.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR PROPOSALS

Indicate the projected expenditure and impact on resources for councils and the national organization, for a five (5) year period.

GSUSA would support the impacted council by forgiving or canceling the council's licensing fees for a period of time, and by covering portion/all of council membership fees for the stated specified period of time. The award amount would be based on council size.

 **AM Brix Hahn, 1st Vice Chair/Acting Chair**
Signature and Printed Name of chair, council board of directors

May 17, 2025
Date of council board meeting

Open Comment and Collaboration Period: April 7-May 14, 2025

To submit for Open Comment and Collaboration, completed forms must be emailed to BoardOffice@girlscouts.org, copying abeck@girlscouts.org, with subject line: Draft Agenda Item from [INSERT COUNCIL(S)].

Please note that if a group of councils is submitting a single agenda item, the submission form should be signed by each council's board chair.

Final Submission Deadline: May 30, 2025

Final submissions, signed off by your council(s) board chair must be emailed to BoardOffice@girlscouts.org, copying abeck@girlscouts.org, with the subject line: Final Agenda Item from [INSERT COUNCIL(S)].

If additional space is needed, please attach a separate page.