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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Girl Scouts Maryland Legislative Day Inspires Leadership**

Baltimore—On Thursday, February 14, an estimated 300 girls and 50 adults will come to Annapolis to learn about the political process, meet legislators and observe the legislative process in action. Girl Scouts of Central Maryland, along with Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay, Girl Scout Council of the Nation’s Capital, and Shawnee Girl Scout Council will gather at the Joint Hearing Room for an orientation session. They will then disperse to meet their respective State Senators and Delegates, sit in on committee meetings, and end the day by participating in a mock legislative session. Governor O’Malley will meet at 11:00 a.m. to hear from the girls about issues that are important to them and to take photos.

Since its founding, the Girl Scout movement has focused on providing girls with activities and programs that develop strong values and allow them to contribute to society as a leader, thinker and responsible citizen. Through the Annual Maryland Legislative Day program girls interact with leaders and gain insight about leadership while learning the importance of the political process and their involvement in it.

“For many girls, visiting the State House and meeting elected officials is a rare and unique opportunity,” said Traci A. Barnett, CEO of Girl Scouts of Central Maryland, the largest of the four councils participating in this annual event. “This year many of our girls will be asking their Delegates and Senators to support our Bond Bill (HB#693 & SB #643) request to expand our current office space and create a program center for our girls, volunteers and trainers,” she added. The Urban Program & Environmental Training Center would be the first Girl Scout program and activity center located within Baltimore City.

For more information visit the Girl Scouts website: [www.gscm.org](http://www.gscm.org).

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Girl Scouts of Central Maryland has been serving girls in central Maryland for 45 years. With the help and commitment of 10,000 adult volunteers, Girl Scouts of Central Maryland provides programs to nearly 30,000 girl members. Through these activities, Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character to make the world a better place.