

United States General Accounting Office Washington, D.C. 20548

161134

Accounting and Information Management Division

B-280823

September 1, 1998

The Honorable Henry J. Hyde Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary House of Representatives

Subject:

<u>Federally Chartered Corporation:</u> Review of the Financial Statement Audit Report of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America for Fiscal Year 1997

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As requested, we reviewed the audit report covering the financial statements of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, a federally chartered corporation, for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1997. The corporation promotes qualities and virtues among girls, as a preparation for their responsibilities in the home and for service to the community.

Federally chartered corporations are required under 36 U.S.C. 1102-1103 to

- present the corporation's assets and liabilities and reasonable detail on the corporation's income and expenses in annual financial statements,
- obtain an annual financial audit by an independent public accountant, and
- submit the auditor's report and the corporation's financial statements to the Congress not later than 6 months following the close of the corporation's fiscal year.

The objective of our review was to determine whether the audit report complied with the financial reporting requirements of the law. In carrying out our work, we reviewed the corporation's financial statements and the accompanying notes, performed certain analytical procedures related to information presented in the financial statements, reviewed the auditor's report, and made any necessary inquiries to corporation officials or the auditor as we deemed necessary. We did not review the auditor's working papers.

GAO/AIMD-98-282R Girl Scouts of the United States of America

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The audit reports included the auditor's opinion that the financial statements of the corporation were presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. During our review, nothing came to our attention that would cause us to believe that the financial reporting requirements of the law have not been met. We are returning the audit report you sent with your letter.

Sincerely yours,

David L. Clark

Director, Audit Oversight and Liaison

(w/o enclosure)

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