

Joe Manchin III
WEST VIRGINIA



United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC

Greetings from Joe Manchin **United States Senator**

82nd American Legion Mountaineer Boys State

Year after year, I have watched countless young men become leaders in communities across West Virginia and beyond our great state's borders, and they have made us all very proud. I truly appreciate this year's participants for demonstrating their patriotism and dedication to building a successful future in West Virginia as well as in America's government and society.

Boys State is among the most respected educational programs of government instruction for our state's youth. I am so proud that our Boys State program, the second oldest charter in the nation, has been held at beautiful Jackson's Mill since 1936. Ours is the only program in the country that can claim that tradition. And that is really once of the things that make our state stand out from the rest of the country; the people of West Virginia are hardworking, loyal patriots who take great pride in keeping the history and values of our state alive. This program has always supported that tradition of excellence and of upholding the values we hold dear.

To our future leaders - You are the next generation of innovators and creators and we are counting on you to contribute to an even greater state and nation than we are today. I thank you for devoting your time to learning about our government and how you can make a difference in our country now and in the years ahead. To the many dedicated members of the American Legion who host Boys State every year, thank you for the important work that you do to teach our youth the values of "God and Country." I am forever devoted to my friends in the American Legion and to their noble cause.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Manchin III".

Joe Manchin III
United States Senator