

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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## GREETINGS FROM JIM JUSTICE UNITED STATES SENATOR *86th American Legion Mountaineer Boys State*

On behalf of the wild and wonderful Mountain State and its esteemed citizens, and as your United States Senator, it is my highest honor to welcome you to the 86th year of the American Legion Boys State program. Being selected to represent your schools at Mountaineer Boys State—which is the second oldest charter in our nation—is quite the accomplishment. It means that you have already shown great leadership, character, and a strong dedication to your communities. That is something to be most proud of.

Boys State is more than just our nation's most respected educational program of government instruction for passionate and capable young men; it is an opportunity to discover what you are capable of and the impact you can have as you build something together. Make no mistake, you and those you stand with are our future leaders. We are counting on you to make the Mountain State proud by creating a more perfect State and Nation at this year's Mountaineer Boys State.

Never forget that you come from a place where hard work still matters, where our history and traditions are still honored, and where community means more than anything else that this world attempts to offer us. Proud and noble West Virginians from every corner of our State once stood where you now stand—may you do so with the same conviction to do what is right and the same confidence that carried our state's finest and bravest young men through our darkest times.

No matter how far life takes you, remember that the mountains of our great State will always be your home. As you pursue your dreams, always look to give back to the communities that helped bring you here today. May your pride in being from West Virginia be a potent force for good in our world, and may it never lose its power.

To the great young men participating this year: thank you for devoting your time to learning about the responsibilities of citizenship and public service. To the leaders, volunteers, and sponsors who have sacrificed time, energy, and resources year after year to make Boys State a tremendous success, thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I hope this week is filled with growth, learning, and friendships that last a lifetime. May God bless you, and may He continue to bless the Great State of West Virginia.

With highest regards,



Jim Justice  
United States Senator