



AMERICAN LEGION JERSEY BOYS STATE

"A WEEK THAT SHAPES THE FUTURE"

Sponsored by THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

JUNE 22-27, 2014; RIDER UNIVERSITY, Lawrenceville, NJ

www.ALJBS.org @ALJBS [f.com/ALJBS](https://www.facebook.com/ALJBS)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 23, 2014

CONTACT: David Bagatelle, Director

director@aljbs.org, 646-408-1032

23 Warren County Students Attend American Legion Jersey Boys State *More than 325 New Jersey Communities Sent Delegates*

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – This week, 23 rising-seniors in high schools from Warren County arrived at the 69th session of American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS) at Rider University in Lawrenceville, NJ. The program, sponsored by the American Legion Department of New Jersey, is an action-oriented approach for teaching civics and government at the local, county and state level.

"It's our honor to welcome 924 statesmen to Jersey Boys State," said David Bagatelle, Director of ALJBS. "The Jersey Boys State record of producing our state's leaders is strong including our current governor, Chris Christie, our senators, Robert Menendez and Cory Booker, and many other political leaders."

Statesmen will have the opportunity to govern and interact with their peers from across New Jersey as they run their own mythical 51st state of the union from June 22-27. Within 24 hours each city will divide into political parties, elect a mayor and council from within their ranks. By the end of the session, statesmen will have filled the ranks of local, county, the state legislature, municipal courts and will elect two senators to serve at American Legion Boys Nation in Washington, D.C. later this summer.

Highlights throughout the week include:

- Notable speakers including Senator Robert Menendez, Congressman Leonard Lance, CBS 3 Philadelphia's Jessica Dean, US Senate candidate Jeffrey Bell, former Congressman Bob Inglis (SC), among many others;
- A college fair featuring nearly 100 institutions from across the country;
- Leadership and career seminars featuring business executives, military representatives, political consultants, law experts and journalists, among other professional experts;
- Election of the 69th ALJBS Governor on Thursday, June 26; and
- Election of two Boys Nation Senators on Friday June 27, who will represent New Jersey at the annual American Legion Boys Nation program in Washington D.C., from July 18-26, 2014.

Notable ALJBS alumni include Governor Christopher Christie (Boys Nation Senator, 1979), Senator Robert Menendez (1971), Senator Cory Booker (1986), Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito (1967), Congressman Leonard Lance (1969) and Assemblyman Herbert Conaway (ALJBS Governor, 1980).

Statesmen in Attendance (Alphabetical by Name)

Marcelino Cabral-Castro, Stewartsville, Legion Post #456

Gian Defilippis, Andover, Legion Post #418

Jeremy Del Valle, Great Meadows, Legion Post #164

Nikolas Douvris, Stewartsville, Legion Post #456

Gavin Gross, Blairstown, Legion Post #418

Oscar Guillen, Phillipsburg, Legion Post #446

David Harris, Washington, Legion Post #131

Garrett Irizarry, Blairstown, Legion Post #258

Owen Kaiser, Phillipsburg, Legion Post #131

Sean Kessell, Hackettstown, Legion Post #164

Tyler Lavin, Phillipsburg, Legion Post #457

Victor Musera, Phillipsburg, Legion Post #446
Ryan Oakley, Blairstown, Legion Post #418
Blake Rader, Belvidere, Legion Post #131
Steven Schaarschmidt, Hackettstown, Legion Post #164
David Seldow, Phillipsburg, Legion Post #457
Robert Servilio, Washington, Legion Post #103
Nicholas Sierchio, Knowton, Legion Post #528
Colin Soisson, Blairstown, Legion Post #418
Tyler Soobryan, Hackettstown, Legion Post #164
Kennedy Stapleton, Hackettstown, Legion Post #103
David Van Dongen, Hackettstown, Legion Post #164
Peter Washer III, Belvidere, Legion Post #131

###

About American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS)

In its 69th year, ALJBS is a week-long experience that educates and motivates New Jersey's youth so that each statesman may become a citizen leader dedicated to service, respect, and Americanism. Together, the delegates form the mythical "51st" state of the union each year, where they elect their own local, state, and national representatives. Activities at ALJBS include legislative sessions, general assemblies, court proceedings, athletics, band, and career seminars, among many others. All expenses associated with attending ALJBS are typically donated by a sponsoring American Legion Post, a local business, or a community-based organization. To learn more, please visit aljbs.org.