



AMERICAN LEGION JERSEY BOYS STATE

“A WEEK THAT SHAPES THE FUTURE”

Sponsored by THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Governor Christie Signs Jersey Boys State College Credit Bill into Law

Nearly 1,000 High School Students will be Eligible to Receive Credit at Jersey Boys State’s College-Level Program

TRENTON, NJ— Governor Chris Christie (ALJBS ’79) has signed the Jersey Boys State and Girls State College Credit Bill into law. This law permits institutions of higher learning in New Jersey “to grant up to three college credits to high school students who successfully complete the American Legion Jersey Boys State or American Legion Auxiliary Jersey Girls State program.” Every June, nearly 1,000 top-of-the-class high school students from more than 325 communities across New Jersey attend Jersey Boys State.

“This is a watershed moment in the 71-year history of American Legion Jersey Boys State,” said David Bagatelle, Director of American Legion Jersey Boys State. “The signing of this legislation is another affirmation in Jersey Boys State’s status as a college-level program. I thank Governor Christie and all of our state’s legislators who recognize the importance of civic leadership and the Jersey Boys State model.”

Implementation of this benefit to Jersey Boys State’s future students is being discussed.

Prior to the signing, the New Jersey State Senate voted 38-0 in favor of passage and the General Assembly voted 73-0-1.

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Governor Christie is an alumnus of Jersey Boys State attending the college-level program in 1979 and subsequently attending American Legion Boys Nation as a one of two of New Jersey’s elected senators.

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About American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS)

In its 71st 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.