

AMERICAN LEGION JERSEY BOYS STATE

"A WEEK THAT SHAPES THE FUTURE"

Sponsored by THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

JUNE 16-21, 2013; RIDER UNIVERSITY, Lawrenceville, NJ

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statesmen Elect Christopher Biehn as 2013 Jersey Boys State Governor

Gov. Biehn of Medford, NJ, and Lieutenant Gov. Tipre of Princeton, NJ, Victorious in Race to Serve 68th Session of American Legion Jersey Boys State

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – On Thursday, June 20, the American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS) Board of Elections announced Christopher Biehn (Medford, NJ) and Prajay Tipre (Princeton, NJ) will serve as Governor and Lieutenant Governor, respectively, for the 68th session of American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS). Federal candidates Biehn and Tipre bested National candidates Sohum Pawar and Michael Byrnes in a race to the highest elected positions at Jersey Boys State. Among the chief duties of the Governor, he will recommend and review bills sent by the Jersey Boys State Legislature and be expected to represent his state at the highest level at various events.

Governor Biehn delivered the annual state of the state address Friday, June 21, and announced gubernatorial appointments.

The Governor, sponsored by American Legion Post #526, and Lieutenant Governor sponsored by American Legion Post #148, were sworn-in immediately after the race was called at Rider University in Lawrenceville, NJ.

On Wednesday, June 19, Biehn competed in the Federal Party primary among many candidates. Biehn selected Tipre as his running mate to serve as Lieutenant Governor Wednesday night.

The hands-on approach for teaching civics and government at the local, county, and state level allows each statesmen to run for many offices from city dog catcher—to mayor—to county freeholder—and to Boys Nation Senator – among many others. This year's 967 statesmen hail from more than 325 communities across New Jersey.

Throughout the week-long program, statesmen:

- Heard from notable speakers including US Senate candidate and Newark Mayor Cory Booker (ALJBS delegate, 1986), US Senate candidate Congressman Frank Pallone Jr., Congressman Leonard Lance (ALJBS delegate, 1969), and NJ Assemblyman Herbert Conaway, Jr. (ALJBS Governor, 1980);
- Participated in a robust college fair featuring 95 colleges and universities from across the nation;
- Attended leadership seminars and training by United States Marine Corps and New Jersey State Police;
- Elected the 68th ALJBS Governor; and
- Elected two Boys Nation Senators who will represent New Jersey at the annual American Legion Boys Nation program in Washington D.C., from July 19-26, 2013.

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About American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS)

In its 68th year, ALJBS is a week-long experience that educates, trains, and inspires New Jersey's youth so that each statesman may become a lifelong leader of character committed to service, respect, and Americanism. ALJBS is a college-level seminar that teaches citizenship, politics, and leadership to nearly 1,000 rising-seniors in high school. ALJBS is among the most respected and selective educational programs of its kind in the country. All expenses are typically donated by a sponsoring American Legion Post, a local business, or a community-based organization. To learn more, please visit <u>aljbs.org</u>.