



Date: April 3, 2020

Subject: Massachusetts Boys State COVID-19 Update

Due to the extenuating circumstances related to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the Executive Staff for Massachusetts American Legion Boys State has decided to cancel our 2020 program. We understand the disappointment this may cause some of this year's rising seniors, though we assure you that our decision was made after much discussion and with an emphasis on both student and staff safety.

We have also been brainstorming possible alternative plans. At this juncture, we considered a "Virtual Boys State", but determined that this mode could not adequately replace the camaraderie developed by spending the week with your peers. We are currently exploring the feasibility of holding a "double Boys State" next year at Stonehill College, June 12th-18th, by combining this year's cohort with next year's. To that end, if you were planning on attending Boys State 2020, please fill out the form found on the website so that we can keep track of interested students and reach out again next spring. We are also currently working through how we will carry over any expenses or otherwise reimburse Legion Posts or families that have already paid for this year's program. We will update our website and social media accordingly once that is decided.

We thank you for your understanding, and we hope you and your loved ones stay safe during these difficult and unpredictable times.

Sincerely,

Mark Avis, Chairman  
Massachusetts American Legion Boys State