

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4805

March 10, 2026

Dear 2026 Mountaineer Boys State Participants,

It is my honor to congratulate and welcome you to the prestigious 87th American Legion Mountaineer Boys State. As the most qualified and intelligent young men in our state, you have been granted the opportunity to engage in the unique experience of learning about government, leadership, and citizenship, in an environment like no other.

You will be amongst many others who have walked the coveted grounds of beautiful Jackson's Mill. From political leaders and government officials to CEOs and small business owners, these individuals all have this wonderful West Virginia tradition in common. Here you will learn the importance of service, integrity, collaboration, and insight into the political process. Our program is historic and holds the second oldest charter in the country, as it continues to instill West Virginia and Appalachian values to all who participate.

My father, Arch A. Moore Jr., who served three terms as West Virginia's Governor and six terms in the United States House of Representatives, held this program dear to his heart. He treasured it because of the valuable skills and knowledge he acquired while learning the rights and privileges of citizenship, as well as the remarkable opportunity to grow and become one of the leaders of tomorrow.

I have met many outstanding leaders in West Virginia during my time serving in the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives, many of whom attended the American Legion Mountaineer Boys State. I truly hope you make your time here count and take advantage of all the learning opportunities. I wish you the best of luck in this journey and onwards.

Sincerely,



Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator.