



August 31, 2020

Dear American Legion Riders Missouri Chapter 005 - Jefferson City:

After careful consideration, the leadership of Missouri Boys State has decided not to proceed with the modified session of Boys State scheduled for November 2020.

The current circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic weigh against such a gathering, and we believe this is in the best interest of students, our volunteer staff, and communities across Missouri.

We know this is disappointing news for the students, but there is a silver lining:

Students who were selected to participate in the 2020 session of Boys State will be automatically invited to participate in the 2021 session of Boys State scheduled for June 12-19. This means students can defer their Boys State experience to June 2021, and if they complete the program they will remain eligible for college credit and scholarships.

We have notified students and their families about this development, but also wanted to alert our sponsors.

Because we will continue to offer Boys State to this year's applicants, we are asking sponsors to roll over their sponsorships for 2021 so the students can participate next June. This will ensure their eligibility for the upcoming session and fulfill your commitment to them as a sponsor.

As we turn our focus to next year, please know this: the challenges of 2020 have not dampened our passion for serving the youth of Missouri. We are confident that Missouri Boys State will return better and stronger in 2021, and we hope you will continue to assist it.

Thank you for your continued support of Boys State and the young people of Missouri.

Bradford Lear
Director
The American Legion Boys State of Missouri, Inc.

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