

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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[www.VABoysState.org](http://www.VABoysState.org)

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**73rd SESSION OF AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE OF VIRGINIA CONVENES SUNDAY**

RADFORD -- The 2015 session of American Legion Boys State of Virginia opens this Sunday, June 21 at Radford University with about 650 high school students in attendance. "Our 2015 program will again include as speakers statewide elected officials including the governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general as well as many other state and local officials," said Ike Kelley, Director of American Legion Boys State of Virginia. "The American Legion will continue to provide a high quality program this year at our 73rd annual session," Kelley added.

Outstanding rising seniors from high schools -- both public and private -- across Virginia have been chosen to participate in this annual educational program. Boys State, sponsored by the American Legion in each state, is designed to instruct select high school students about state and local government. Delegates to this intensive week-long session hear addresses from various state and local officials including the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, two Cabinet Secretaries, five members of the General Assembly, a state prosecutor, and three local officials. All delegates are assigned to one of sixteen Boys State cities named after famous military leaders, like Eisenhower, MacArthur, and Patton. Each of the Boys State citizens will also be assigned to either of the fictitious political parties -- Federalist or Nationalist -- for purposes of nominating and electing candidates for mayor of each city, the Boys State legislature, attorney general, lieutenant governor and governor along with various other state and local offices.

**SPECIAL NOTICE: ANY MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE VISITING RADFORD UNIVERSITY TO COVER THE 73rd SESSION OF AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE OF VIRGINIA FROM JUNE 21-27 SHOULD REPORT TO BOYS STATE HEADQUARTERS ON CAMPUS OR CALL IN ADVANCE AT (703) 943-7149.**

**PRINCIPAL SPEAKERS AT THE 2015 SESSION OF AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE OF VIRGINIA AT RADFORD UNIVERSITY**

SUNDAY, JUNE 21:

8:30 p.m. -- Keynote Address -- Rear Admiral William W. Cobb, Jr., U.S. Navy (Retired)

MONDAY, JUNE 22:

9:45 a.m. -- "Virginia General Assembly - Origins to Today" -- Five Members of the Virginia General Assembly including:

Senator John S. Edwards (D-21) of Roanoke

Delegate Richard P. Bell (R-20) of Staunton

Delegate Sam Rasoul (D-11) of Roanoke

Delegate L. Nick Rush (R-7) of Christiansburg

Delegate Joseph R. Yost (R-12) of Blacksburg

7:30 p.m. -- "Local Government in Virginia" -- The Honorable Bruce E. Brown, Mayor of Radford; the Honorable Robert K. Coiner, Mayor of Gordonsville; and Greg Kelly, Town Manager of Abingdon

TUESDAY, JUNE 23:

10:00 a.m. -- "The Virginia Judicial System" -- The Michael R. Doucette, Commonwealth's Attorney in Lynchburg

**1:15 p.m. -- "The Office of Attorney General" -- The Honorable Mark R. Herring, Attorney General of Virginia**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24:

**10:00 a.m. -- "The Office of Lieutenant Governor" -- The Honorable Ralph S. Northam, Lieutenant Governor of Virginia**

THURSDAY, JUNE 25:

**11:30 a.m. -- "The Office of Governor" -- The Honorable Terence R. McAuliffe, Governor of Virginia**

1:45 p.m. -- "The Governor's Cabinet" -- The Honorable Nancy Rodrigues, Secretary of Administration and The Honorable Todd P. Haymore, Secretary of Agriculture

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