

Presentation by Youth Legislator Tyler Fournier

Why did you apply for the NYL?

I wanted to make a positive change for youth in my district and I also wanted to give the youth a voice. I also hoped to learn as much as possible about governmental processes.

What interested you in the program?

I wanted to get better at public speaking and better educate myself in the government process. I have also always been interested in how laws are created and the legislative process.

How did you learn about the program?

I was looking for extra curricular activities when I came across the NYL on the RISE resource center website.

What has been the most meaningful to you so far?

I would have to say Power Presentations or Message Accountability because I use those on the daily and I have found both trainings very effective. Also connecting and forming relationships with my fellow youth legislators, legislative representatives and other community leaders.

How has the program enriched your understanding of representative government and your responsibility to give your constituents a voice?

The NYL has given me a much greater understanding of how laws are created and how everything is important. For example, before I was a youth legislator I had no clue what the difference was between a senator and assembly person. Another thing that I have learned is that when people look at a problem and have different opinions, that's the best thing that could happen because you get a look at it through many different points of views.

How would you like to engage your legislators in your work as a Youth Legislator?

I am currently working on getting closer with my legislators and want to learn as much as I can just from talking to them, listening to their suggestions and seeing them action. I would also like to hopefully have them take my BDR if it is not chosen as the NYL's bill.

What are you learning from the youth of your district that you want to share with your legislator?

The big problem nowadays is mental health and school violence. At the moment I'm not sure how to address these problems and am currently taking ideas, brainstorming solutions, and getting expert research and specialist wisdom formulated.

What ideas do you have to market the NYL program?

I think that if we make it more well known across schools, community centers, churches and youth sports areas in Nevada it would get much more youth participation state wide. I that government teachers in particular should be contacted at all the state high schools and charters in order to target those students who are finding their niche in government.

What do you anticipate to be the most positive outcome for you as an individual after your time spent in the NYL? Please address the most positive differences between your last term and this term.

I have become a much better public speaker and have become a better person overall. I have learned so much during my time in the NYL and wouldn't take back one second of it. I can't thank Senator Weiner or Tina Ashdown enough for all they have done for me.

I loved the reunion/training that we had as that focused solely on conversation skills and getting to know someone better. I also think that the second time around with all the trainings enables me to dig deeper, learn more and apply all I have learned in other real world situations. I hope to stay involved with the NYL after my term is over. The NYL has taught me so much and I'm so grateful to be a Youth Legislator.