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**Local Student, Louie Lombardo, Graduates from American Legion Boys State
and chosen to represent the State of Texas in Washington D.C. at Boys Nation**

*One of 920 future leaders that assembled for the prestigious program
Spent week at University of Texas learning about government*

AUSTIN, Tex. – The American Legion, Department of Texas announced that Louie Lombardo, Arlington student attending Mansfield Summit High School graduated from American Legion Boys State, Department of Texas, and was chosen to represent the state of Texas as one of the two senators at Boys Nation in Washington D.C.

Begun in 1935, Boys State is a unique program that educates future leaders about government, civics, and patriotism in a “learn by doing” environment. Each delegate has just finished his junior year of high school and was hand-picked by teachers, counselors, and local American Legion posts throughout Texas to attend this one week leadership conference held on the University of Texas at Austin campus.

During the week, the delegates were evenly split into fictional parties of the Nationalist and Federalists. Each party drafted party platforms, elected party officials, nominated candidates via primary elections, and contested a general election against the rival party and its candidates. The delegates heard from more than 50 distinguished speakers ranging from State Senators and judges to the Texas commissioner of Education, Michael Williams, and many others. Boys State concluded on Friday, June 13, with a morning parade from the University of Texas at Austin campus to the Texas State Capitol. After the parade, the delegates toured the capitol, visited the offices of their state senators and representatives.

Throughout the week, Boys State counselors and senior representatives observed, interviewed and ultimately chose two deserving boys to represent Texas at Boys Nation in Washington D.C. One of those boys is our very own Louie Lombardo of Arlington Texas. Louie attends Mansfield Summit High School where he will be a senior. Louie was chosen and recommended to attend Boys State by American Legion post 624 because he is an active leader in his school. Louie has been elected to serve as senior class president, choir president, UIL academic president, captain of the debate team and president of the newly established rocket club all during his senior year 2014-2015. Louie is also a very involved athlete at Mansfield Summit. He plays on the football and soccer teams, runs cross country and track, giving it his all every day. His leadership qualities, as well as his successful week at Boys State will enable him to make Texas proud when he goes on to Boys Nation.

Since Boys Nation began in 1946, a number of its graduates have been elected to public office, including presidents, congressmen, state governors and state legislators. Louie will be leaving for Boys Nation in July and will spend the week competing with 96 boys from around the country for the title of Boys Nation President. We wish Louie the best of luck!

For more information on Boys State, visit www.TexasBoysState.com.