



Executive Department  
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor  
**Proclamation**

State Capitol  
Boise

WHEREAS, the American Legion is the largest national veterans organization in the United States, with membership of 2.4 million men and women who have served their country in time of armed conflict, and is dedicated to serving the needs of all veterans by advocating for and supporting veteran benefits owed by a grateful nation to those who have served to defend liberty and freedom; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion Americanism Commission promotes an understanding and appreciation of American government, the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship and activity in the American way of life through youth activities, community service, instruction of prospective citizens and legal immigrants, education and educational facilities, and protection of the U.S. flag from physical desecration; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion youth programs under the Americanism Commission annually conduct Gem Boys State, sponsor Legion Baseball, conduct Legion Oratorical Contests, award Legion Scholarships, sponsor Boys and Girls Scout Troops and support other specialized youth programs; while the American Legion Auxiliary annually conducts Syringa Girls State; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Department of the American Legion organizes and directs Idaho Legionnaires and Legion Auxiliary members in Legion Posts across the state of Idaho to volunteer their time and energy to conduct and support these programs to engage more current and future generations of Idaho youth; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Department of the American Legion has recently formed a youth programs committee for the purpose of raising public awareness of American Legion youth programs and directly soliciting donations from Idaho corporations, corporate foundations, private foundations, associations, trade groups, non-profit organizations and other entities interested in partnering with the Idaho American Legion to expand and enhance these youth programs in Idaho while promoting student, parent, educator and guidance counselor awareness of their benefits; and

WHEREAS the State of Idaho currently supports the Gem Boys State and Syringa Girls State programs through access to the Idaho State Capitol during these weeklong government-in-action programs, reflecting how such programs benefit the State of Idaho both socially and economically through citizenship and government;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim January 12, 2017 to be

**AMERICAN LEGION YOUTH PROGRAMS DAY**

in Idaho.



*Lawrence Denney*

LAWRENCE DENNEY  
SECRETARY OF STATE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-first and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-seventh.

*C.L. Butch Otter*

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

In honor of this important occasion, I, BRAD LITTLE, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Idaho do hereby witness this proclamation.

*Brad Little*

BRAD LITTLE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR