



WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH & GOVERNMENT

Senators, Representatives, and O'Brien House/Cherberg Senate Members

Senators and Representatives must be in grades 10 through 12, or equivalent. Though it is assumed that the more senior members of the delegation will fill these slots, allocation of roles is ultimately the decision of the delegation and its advisor. O'Brien House/Cherberg Senate members **MUST** be new delegates to the program and be enrolled in grades 9-12 or equivalent. Senators, Representatives and O'Brien House members have the following responsibilities:

1. Senators, Representatives, O'Brien House and Cherberg Senate members must sponsor or co-sponsor a legislative bill. It must be filed in time for inclusion in the official Bill Book and be in the official format. *No more than two people may co-sponsor a bill.*
2. Study the subject of the bill, including background, current laws, and legal implications to become knowledgeable about all aspects the legislation may address.
3. Study the Bill Book in advance of Youth Legislature. Be sure to read the sections on "Rules of Order" and "Outline of Parliamentary Rules."
4. Act as proponent for the bill before legislative committee (every effort will be made to appoint sponsoring delegate(s) to the appropriate committee).
5. Study other bills introduced in delegate's chamber, particularly those assigned to the committee on which the delegate serves.
6. Check dockets as issued and be prepared on legislation to be debated.
7. Act as proponent for own bill if and when up for consideration in respective chamber, including statements to open and close debate, as well as responding to questions from the body.

8. Enlist support, with aid of lobbyists, for own bill if and when being considered by opposite chamber. DO NOT NEGLECT responsibility to consider and vote upon all other legislation before delegate's own chamber.
9. Work with appropriate Cabinet member and lobbyists to provide Governor with all necessary information if and when bill passes both chambers.
10. Evaluate all proposed legislation with concern for welfare of citizens of State of Washington. Delegates should not hesitate to address fellow legislators with pertinent information.