

Henry Phillips, WY – 2025

In the world of today we are quick to pour our whole being, our heart, mind, and body, into what many would label, simply “politics.” Some regard politics as a now lost art, dissolving away into discord and disarray. Many say they don’t have time for politics, or politics is for fools. Well, I would say that he who does not care for “politics,” does not care for his family, for his friends, for his neighbors or his nation, nor does he truly care for himself.

The Senate Youth Program (USSYP) reminded me that the world of politics is really simple: the organization of people for a common purpose and the betterment of society. Really, it isn’t politics that gets disorganized and fiery, but us, humans. This is why the USSYP is so critical, it teaches us that politics is civil service and shows us the critical need of willing civil servants in society. Politics isn’t about serving one’s own political desires or their party’s desires, but serving the public.

The USSYP offers an engaging, intelligent jump into the conversation of politics not at a topical level, but at the level required to have a new understanding of what the world of politics needs. I was inspired by the program to contribute everything I can, and to be a civil servant in whatever area of study I continue on to.