

Senator Webb Addresses Sorensen College Leaders Program

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Body

The office of Sen. Jim Webb, D-Va., has issued the following news release:

Senator Jim Webb today met with the Sorensen College Leaders Program Class of 2012 during their annual visit to the United States Capitol. The Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership offers this four-week advanced program on public service and leadership each summer at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

"I am a real admirer of this program," said Senator Webb, who has spoken to every class since 2007. "It is a great privilege for you to not only learn valuable lessons about government, but also to benefit from your interactions in this program."

Senator Webb discussed several of his key legislative initiatives:

Reorienting U.S. Foreign Policy:

"I am very proud to say that our office has led the reconnection with East Asia over the last six years. I have been working on this my entire adult life. We spent a lot of time on this, and I am very proud to say that we led the way directly out of our office on what has happened in Burma."

Economic Fairness and Social Justice:

"From the beginning, I put economic inequality up in front of the American people--how this society has been divided not just between the top and bottom, but between the very top and everyone else."

"Since my campaign, I have been talking about how broken our criminal justice system is in this country. Two years ago, I introduced legislation to establish a national commission to examine all the different aspects of the criminal justice system (http://webb.senate.gov/issuesandlegislation/criminaljusticeandlawenforcement/Criminal_Justice_Banner.cfm). In my office, we have met with more than 100 different groups from across the philosophical spectrum to find a better way to keep our neighborhoods safe and to help those who do not want a life of crime to return to society in a productive way."

Government Accountability and Balance in the Executive and Legislative Branches:

"Since 9/11, there has been a tremendous movement of authority toward the Presidency and away from the Congress. I have pushed very hard to restore the balance of power between the Congress and the last two administrations. It is not a political issue; it is an issue of constitutional balance."

Sarah Curtis

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In 2007 the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching recognized the Sorensen Institute's College and High School Leaders Program as among the very best in the nation. It gives young people the skills and motivation to become politically engaged in their communities. All undergraduates at Virginia colleges and universities as well as Virginia residents attending a college out of state are eligible to participate in the program. Additional information is available at the program's website: <http://www.sorenseninstitute.org/programs/clp>.

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