



**U.S. Senator Trent Lott**

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Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I am extremely pleased to announce that students from the great state of Mississippi, and from a number of other states, are participating in the Leadership Training Institute for Youth. This year the program will be held in Missouri.

This invaluable program reaches out to our nation's most important resource, our children. As you know, ensuring safety and effectiveness in schools is an important priority for this Congress. This privately funded initiative helps Congress fulfill its fundamental goal of providing our nation's students with the best education in the world.

The Institute, headquartered in Arkansas, brings together students from communities throughout the nation and from families in all walks of life. It is important to recognize that the young people selected for the program might not have this kind of leadership opportunity available to them in their local communities or even in their home states.

The Leadership Training Institute instills in our youth a sense of purpose, belonging, spirituality, patriotism, and strong moral and ethical character. The Institute's teaching philosophy centers on biblical principles and the tenets espoused by America's founding fathers. Students learn that real leaders are people of faith, integrity, conviction, and moral fiber.

These high school and college age students are given hands-on experience in dealing with compelling political, social, and ethical issues. These students work with experts from a wide range of disciplines to examine leadership competencies, civic responsibility, community and family values, as well as a number of other topics important to America's youth.

During the program, these future leaders will explore such issues as how to: achieve a smaller, more effective government; reduce the burden of taxes on America's working families; reform the IRS; improve education and expand learning opportunities; and, combat violence and drugs in schools.

Mr. President, this sounds like our Senate's agenda.

These students will also meet with local, state, and national leaders to reflect on issues that truly matter--such as family, faith and freedom. As you know, family, faith and freedom must be the cornerstone of our public policy.

Mr. President, I think this is an outstanding initiative and commend the efforts of the Leadership Training Institute for offering this model program to Mississippi's youth.

These young achievers are our nation's future business executives and public officials. It gives me great hope for America's future to know that these young minds are being exposed to the challenging programs being offered by the Leadership Training Institute . I firmly believe that each student who graduates from the Institute will possess the strong, solid moral and value driven foundation needed to guide our nation into the next century.

Again, I want to express my deep appreciation to the Leadership Training Institute for Youth for conducting this exemplary program.

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