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Contact: Questions about your state's delegates, alternates or state selection process: Ms. Cindee Tonnesen at USSYP@tea.texas.gov or (512) 475-3722.

For general information about the United States Senate Youth Program: Program Director Ms. Rayne Guilford at rquilford@hearstfdn.org or (800) 425-3632.

Texas Students Selected for United States Senate Youth Program
Students to Participate in Online Program and to Receive \$10,000 Scholarship

January 11, 2022, Washington, D.C. —The United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) announces that high school students Ms. Krupali M. Kumar and Mr. Trevor Dalton Tobey will join Senator John Cornyn and Senator Ted Cruz in representing Texas during the 60th annual USSYP Washington Week, to be held March 6 — 9, 2022. Krupali Kumar of Cedar Park and Trevor Tobey of Midlothian were selected from among the state's top student leaders to be part of the 104 national student delegation who will each also receive a \$10,000 college scholarship for undergraduate study. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the 2022 program will be held online, through a comprehensive and highly interactive virtual education and leadership forum.

The USSYP was created by Senate Resolution 324 in 1962 and has been sponsored by the Senate and fully funded by The Hearst Foundations since inception. Originally proposed by Senators Kuchel, Mansfield, Dirksen and Humphrey, the Senate leadership of the day, the impetus for the program as stated in Senate testimony is "to increase young Americans' understanding of the interrelationships of the three branches of government, learn the caliber and responsibilities of federally elected and appointed officials, and emphasize the vital importance of democratic decision making not only for America but for people around the world.

Each year this extremely competitive merit-based program provides the most outstanding high school students - two from each state, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity - with an intensive week-long study of the federal government and the people who lead it. The overall mission of the program is to help instill within each class of USSYP student delegates more profound knowledge of the American political process and a lifelong commitment to public service. In addition to the program week, The Hearst Foundations provide each student with a \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship with encouragement to continue coursework in government, history and public affairs. All expenses for Washington Week are also provided by The Hearst Foundations; as stipulated in S.Res.324, no government funds are utilized.

Krupali Kumar, a senior at Round Rock High School, serves as the president of the National Honor Society. She has an extensive history of leadership roles, including serving as vice president of Model United Nations and captain of the varsity Policy Debate team. She is also the founder of the Austin Liberation Youth Movement, a grassroots, student-run organization focused on social justice activism. Most notably, Krupali organized an event in support of the Black Lives Matter movement at the Texas State Capitol. Conversant in several languages, she has spent time in China and Morocco where she taught English while also enhancing her Chinese, French, and Arabic language skills. Before college, Krupali plans to take a gap year in Morocco to study Arabic and increase her understanding of the social, political, and economic landscape of the Arab world. Her ultimate goal is to become an international human rights lawyer.

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UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

2022 Texas Delegate Announcement
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Page -2-

Trevor Tobey, a senior at Midlothian High School, serves as the president of the Senior Class. He has held numerous leadership positions, including president of the National Honor Society and Speech and Debate, and Senior representative on the Student Council. He is the founder and president of Panther Ambassadors, which ensures over 200 new students feel a sense of belonging and companionship at his school by organizing tours, providing mentors, and introductions to clubs and extracurricular opportunities. He plays basketball and is an avid participant at all levels of oratory and debate contests, has qualified for Nationals in Congressional Debate and alternate in Public Forum Debate, and was awarded Academic All American. Trevor aspires to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy to become a fighter pilot, though his ultimate career objective is to positively impact the lives of everyday Americans as the president of the United States.

Chosen as alternates to the 2022 program were Mr. Kendall Carll, a resident of Fairview, who attends Lovejoy High School and Mr. Thomas Davies, a resident of Frisco, who attends Justin Wakeland High School.

Delegates and alternates are selected by the state departments of education nationwide and the District of Columbia and Department of Defense Education Activity, after nomination by teachers and principals. The chief state school officer for each jurisdiction confirms the final selection. This year's Texas delegates and alternates were designated by Mike Morath, Commissioner of Education.

During the program week, the student delegates will attend online meetings and briefings with senators, the president, a justice of the Supreme Court, leaders of cabinet agencies, among others.

In addition to outstanding leadership abilities and a strong commitment to volunteer work, the student delegates rank academically in the top one percent of their states among high school juniors and seniors. Now more than 6,000 strong, alumni of the program continue to excel and develop impressive qualities that are often directed toward public service. Among the many distinguished alumni are: Senator Susan Collins, the first alumnus to be elected U.S. senator; Secretary of Transportation and former Mayor of South Bend Indiana, Pete Buttigieg; former Senator Cory Gardner, the second alumnus to be elected U.S. senator and the first to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives; former New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, the first alumnus to be elected governor; former Chief Judge Robert Henry, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit; former Ambassador to West Germany Richard Burt, former presidential advisors Thomas "Mack" McLarty and Karl Rove. Additional notables include former Lt. Governor of Idaho David Leroy, Provost of Wake Forest University Rogan Kersh, military officers, members of state legislatures, Foreign Service officers, top congressional staff, healthcare providers and other university educators.

Members of the U. S. Senate Youth Program 2022 annual Senate Advisory Committee are: Senator Christopher A. Coons of Delaware, Democratic Co-Chair; Senator Susan M. Collins of Maine, Republican Co-Chair; Advisory Members: Senator Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM); Senator Jeffrey A. Merkley (D-OR); Senator Tina Smith (D-MN); Senator Mark R. Warner (D-VA); Senator Mike Braun (R-IN); Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV); Senator James M. Inhofe (R-OK); and Senator M. Michael Rounds (R-SD). Each year, the Honorary Co-Chairs of the program are the vice president of the United States and the Senate majority and minority leaders.

For more information please visit: www.ussenateyouth.org
