

Every year the Public Policy Institute hosts the American Youth Congress. On March 23rd 2002, the 2nd annual conference took place at the Civic Center in Asheville, NC.

At that time the conference was known as the Local Government Youth Assembly

The youth congress was organized so area students could gain hands-on experience in proposing, drafting, debating and passing legislation at the Local, State and National level. "We try to make it as realistic as possible, Once the students have met, they lobby their idea, present it and propose a cause of action."

After the youth assembly, the participants are encouraged to take their ideas to their state, local or federal representatives. Issues such as the state lottery, environmental concerns and economic development strategies are just a few topics that have been brought up in previous sessions.

Some results from the surveys:

The average age of participants - 16

Most Admired Man- George Bush

Most Admired Woman- Elizabeth Dole

Most important problem facing the country today

1. Terrorism
2. Drugs

Do you plan to stay in Western North Carolina after finishing your education?

Answer Provided

■ Maybe

■ Yes

■ No

