

Media Contact:
Armanasco Public Relations, Inc.
pr@armanasco.com or 831-372-2259

PRESS RELEASE

Gonzales High School Student One of Two Youth Selected to Represent California in the U.S. Senate Youth Program in Washington, D.C.

Gonzales, CA – January 17, 2019 - California Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson, selected Cindy Aguilar-Castaneda to represent California at the 57th annual U.S. Senate Youth Program. The appointment was formally recognized at a meeting of the State Board of Education in Sacramento on January 9th. Aguilar-Castaneda is one of two high school students chosen by Torlakson to attend the program March 2nd to 9th, in Washington, D.C.

To qualify for the program, high school juniors or seniors must be currently serving in an elected or appointed leadership capacity in a student government, civic or educational organization and express an interest in pursuing a career in public service. They must be nominated by their high school principal.

A selection committee from the California Department of Education reviews eligible nominees, and Torlakson selects the awardees based on the quality of the application, demonstrated qualities of leadership, academic achievement, involvement in school and community activities, extracurricular activities, interpersonal and communication skills, knowledge of American government and history and commitment to public service.

Aguilar-Castaneda is a senior at Gonzales High School. She is a Youth Commissioner with the Gonzales Youth Council, the official youth advisory group to the Gonzales City Council and Gonzales Unified School District. She is a founder and mentor of Mentoring in New Dimensions, a peer-mentoring club that focuses on first-generation college students. She plans to attend Stanford University and major in political science and public policy, ultimately obtaining a Ph.D.

In addition to the appointment Aguilar-Castaneda will received a \$10,000 scholarship.

For more information:
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr18/yr18rel82.asp>
<https://ussenateyouth.org/>
<https://vimeo.com/154941147>

###