

## **New York State YMCA Youth & Government 2018 – 2019 OFFICER NOMINATION**

I declare my candidacy for the position of:

**Senate Pro Tempore**

**Name: Stephen Gilbert**

**Year in school: 10      Number of years in Y&G 2**

**Previous Youth and Government experience and/or other qualifications:**



Two years ago, Youth and Government members took the time to teach some eighth graders the basics of writing and debating bills, which I was happy to learn from. Last year I became involved in Youth and Government officially, and joined the judicial branch, which was an amazing experience. This year, I joined legislative, and am excited to debate and become a committee chair. Outside of Youth and Government, I was class treasurer last year and I am currently class vice president.

**If you were faced with a bill topic that goes against your personal standpoint, how would you effectively handle the matter?**

If I were faced with this situation, I would handle the the matter with a fresh mind. I would not let my personal views stand in the way of the bill itself, but rather be unbiased and allow the delegates to decide for themselves the validity of the bill. As Senate President Pro Tempore, I would ensure each individual gets to express their opinions in a polite manner, despite my own feelings on a topic. As Voltaire once said, and I concur, "I may not agree with what you say but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

**Define servant leadership and describe how you plan to incorporate this if elected into office:**

Servant leadership is the act of leading yet serving first while doing so; it is a philosophy that greatly impacts everyone involved for good. A servant leader puts others before themselves and leads by example, and ensures others needs are met well before they take care of their own. If elected, I plan to incorporate this by reaching out to the delegates and ensure that their voices are heard and taken into consideration. I will do my best to encourage debate and participation, as well as respecting others by doing these things myself.