2021 OLLC (Ohio Legislative Leadership Conference) Written By: Tru Buddenberg Edited By: Emma Bennett

The Ohio Legislative Leadership Conference was an amazing experience to have been able to take part in. When we arrived we walked into the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus and found our seats in the atrium for the leadership event. We were then given a tour of the Statehouse and got to see all of the rooms inside, such as the courtrooms and the historical aspects of the building, even getting to ride in an old elevator that has been there since the house was built. Then after the tour we made our way back to the atrium for a fun activity with members of the Senate and House of Representatives. We got to speak to our local representative Kyle Koehlor who talked to us about what he does as a part of Ohio's legislative branch as well as what he does to help agriculture in ohio. He gave us a lot of cool information to think about and to have future reference when considering our government system and how it works on the state level. He also ended up giving us a really cool pin for the inside of our jackets so we can remember our time at the conference and have it with us as a sign of the activity we participated in. After meeting him we did a really fun workshop that taught us all the specifics that go into making a bill while also learning how ag related bills are passed too. The activity took us about an hour to get through all the information and it was so much fun working with other chapters to learn about how agriculture plays a role in National and State government policies. When we were finished with the activity they provided a meal for us that consisted of seasoned chicken, green beans, mashed potatoes, potato salad, and a roll. It was a great meal and totally worth the wait after the leadership activity. Overall it was an amazing trip and a great opportunity to have been able to be a part of. I am so glad I made the decision to go to our Ohio FFA's leadership conference and will definitely be recommending it to our younger members so they can have the same experience I did.

