



**Lesniak Institute**  
**for AMERICAN LEADERSHIP**

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**Animal Welfare Breaking News: Senator Lesniak Visits Humane State Design Contest Winner at High Technology High School**

**Lincroft, NJ** - The first place winner of the Humane State License Plate Contest is Kelly Qiang who is 15 years old from High Technology High School and will be receiving her scholarship from Senator Raymond J. Lesniak and Brian Hackett on December 14th.

First place winner, Qiang will receive a \$1,000 scholarship, her design on a NJ state license plate, and a visit to her school by The Institute's Founder and President, Sen. Raymond J. Lesniak. Brian Hackett, New Jersey State Director for State Affairs will also be in attendance at the school assembly.

"The license plate contest brought students of all ages together to advocate on behalf of animal welfare," said Sarah Mack, the director of The Lesniak Institute. "We are honored that all of the students put incredible effort into the contest. We are proud to share the winning plate with Kelly's entire school."

The Humane State Contest was made in an effort to educate the younger generation on animal welfare efforts in New Jersey. As a reward to show that New Jersey was successfully named the Humane State, a license plate is being made to display those efforts. The design contest was to foster the younger generation's creativity and get them even more involved with actually having them create the face of the design.

The Humane State License Plate Contest was a two part initiative, including an essay contest. The goal of the essay contest is to inspire students to use their writing skills to promote the need to protect animals from cruelty and to save animals from extinction. The Institute will announce winners for the essay portion of the Humane State contest on Dec. 15.

**About The Lesniak Institute for American Leadership**

The Lesniak Institute for American Leadership, based at Kean University, is a nonprofit think tank and training institute to develop the next generation of American leaders, and to partner with grassroots leaders from across the country, to advocate for social justice. The Institute is named for Senator Raymond J. Lesniak, who, over a 40-year career in the New Jersey Legislature, authored and sponsored hundreds of laws that have advanced civil rights and the quality of life for millions.

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