

I am drawn towards serving in a state government internship as I believe this opportunity will provide a meaningful avenue for deepening my understanding of public service while honing applicable skills for a future career in law. Pursuing this internship, where I will be immersed within the inner workings of legislative action, will allow me to experience civil service in a way that will inspire further responsiveness for my role in this historic democracy. Growing up learning about the uniqueness of American democracy and experiencing firsthand civil enfranchisement is a gift that I will never take for granted. Furthermore, my goal in becoming an attorney drives my desire to serve in this state government internship. I believe watching and participating in representation will be an invaluable opportunity for a career centered around advocacy. Moreover, I will gain critical preparation for a career that constantly works with laws laid down by local, state, and national governances, by seeing firsthand how the justice system intertwines with legislation. But apart from my passion for civil service and career aspirations, engaging with Missouri's legislative systems will enrich my understanding of how state governance impacts local communities. Born and raised in Missouri, I have a deep love for this state, and participating in its systems of government is a priceless opportunity for me to learn more about the processes necessary in bettering the lives of my fellow Missourians. My love and pride for Missouri inspired me to seek out this internship, and I hope to further engage with the historic democratic systems which make this state, and nation, strong.

Throughout my educational and work experiences, I have gained critical skills in writing, communication, critical thinking, and collaboration, all of which I will bring with me in this state internship. As an English major, I have had multiple opportunities to strengthen my writing and critical thinking skills. Analyzing literature and translating ideas into persuasive or research essays requires attention to detail, ability to think creatively, and drive, and by immersing myself

within the world of writing and literature, I have strongly developed these skills. From pursuing a religious studies major, I have grown the ability to converse, understand, and relate to a broad spectrum of people. My law and history minors reflect my passions for American government and history and have allowed me to hone research and problem-solving skills. Furthermore, my work experiences have instilled me with the ability to communicate and adapt. Working with children requires responsible communication with parents and faculty. Likewise, the ability to quickly change plans without unnecessary disruption is essential for elementary aged children, and from my roles as an Aftercare Assistant and nanny, I have developed strong adaptive skills. These respective roles have shaped my flexible and communicative abilities and show my consistency in providing responsible care and attention in professional and educational capacities.

This internship will contribute to my future success in law by exposing me to the legislative inner workings of state government and thus allow me to further understand the complex relationship between the justice system and legislation. With further understanding, I will be able to refine my interests in law by focusing on specific areas, such as criminal justice, immigration, or civil litigation, among others. Through this internship, I will develop a nuanced perspective on the intersections of diverse aspects of law. Ultimately, this deeper understanding will enable me to specify my academic and professional goals within legal fields that align best with my interests and values.