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Summer Internship 2009
Executive Summary
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Hoping to develop my knowledge in politics and become a more learned person in current events, I went to Washington, DC to intern for Senator Lindsey Graham. When I applied for the internship, I had my heart set on working in Senator Graham's office and did not apply for internships in any other South Carolina representatives' offices. I researched his positions on certain issues and was impressed with what he had achieved during his time in office. Working in his DC office only expanded my respect for him as a Senator; I truly believe that his pragmatic approach towards politics and his genuine desire to do what is best for the country make him the type of leader that our country needs today.

With a newly inaugurated President in the White House, and with the Democratic Party taking the majority in Congress, I anticipated an eventful four weeks on Capitol Hill. However, nothing I imagined could ever compare to what I actually experienced while I was there. Just doing the daily office tasks of talking to constituents on the phone and sorting through mail really helped me learn a lot about current issues, and have thoroughly expanded my ability to discuss politics in an educated manner.

I went into my internship hoping to come out of it with a better understanding of and appreciation for the democratic values of this nation. I can certainly say that working for Senator Graham fulfilled this goal. When I reflect back on the time I spent on Capitol Hill, I know that I will think of it as a significant turning point in my life when I truly came to realize what a privilege it is to live amongst the democratic values that this nation was founded on.