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The Hub Project

1000 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW

Washington D.C 20007

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my interest in working as a Research Associate at The Hub Project. I am well-suited for the role because my prior experience organizing for a progressive campaign and researching policy issues in Northern Virginia have given me a strong grasp of the economic issues facing this country and the ways to find common ground on possible policy solutions.

As a Campaign Organizing Intern at Environment Virginia, I canvassed in Loudoun County, Virginia to gather petition signatures and handwritten letters that urged Governor Terry McAuliffe to include strong commitments to renewable sources of energy as part of the state’s implementation of the Clean Power Plan. I then continued to engage with supporters by calling and emailing them to encourage them to come to our events. This experience allowed me to talk to voters in search of common ground on ways to address climate change and energy policy in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Policy research at Serving Virginia allowed me to apply the critical thinking skills I had developed in my Economics and Political Science courses into thinking about practical solutions to policy problems. Each week, I researched a specific policy issue and developed a cost-benefit analysis of possible solutions to the problem. For instance, one of my tasks was to come up with an estimate of the impact of potential marijuana legalization on the state budget. Looking at the data, I estimated that the state could net 75 to 100 million dollars when considering increased tax revenue generated and decreased enforcements costs. These tasks helped me get better at synthesizing lots of information so that I could make a clear and concise argument supporting my policy recommendation.

I would like to continue to build upon my experiences working on an advocacy campaign and doing policy research as a Research Associate at The Hub Project. It would be a tremendous privilege to play a small part in working to advocate for policies that guarantee better policies for all Americans. Please consider placing me on your interview schedule. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Zachary Spahr