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This is my full and written testimony, please disregard the summary of my testimony I previously submitted:

Good afternoon everyone! My name is Ragan and I'm a junior at the University of Maine studying International Affairs and focusing on foreign policy. I've absolutely loved my time in this major, but I have really struggled finding internships. My sophomore year I started applying to summer leadership programs in DC, spending hours writing essays and lobbying for my acceptance into at least one internship. I actually was accepted into three and offered a scholarship for one of the programs. Unfortunately, I was not able to go, because students were responsible for paying for housing over the summer. Whether that meant paying for a dorm or staying in a hotel, it wasn't going to be cheap. That summer I did not go to any of those programs. Classmates would suggest super cool programs they had recently finished, but whenever I looked into them, they were usually costly, had no stipend, and would require me to take months off of work-leaving the question of how my bills would get paid. Giving up on affording a DC program, I started looking at opportunities in Maine. There are loads of opportunities to intern with a senator or another political head, but unfortunately a majority of those positions are unpaid. I briefly explored using the internship as an opportunity for credit, but quickly realized that it would be too costly to pay for credits that I don't absolutely need. This has put me in a position of having to prioritze shifts at my serving job over working for a senator I'm interning for right now, because at the end of the day I need to get by. Funding for political internships would allow students that come from low income families to have opportunities that might change the course of their career, allow them to work less hours at their minimum wage job and focus more on their passions. I urge you all to support this bill for generations of students to come, thank you.