

Abstract Submitted  
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**The Utility of a Physics Education in Science Policy**<sup>1</sup> DREW ROBERTS, Univ of NC - Chapel Hill — In order for regulators to create successful policies on technical issues, ranging from environmental protection to distribution of national grant money, the scientific community must play an integral role in the legislative process. Through a summer-long internship with the Science, Space, and Technology Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have learned that skills developed while pursuing an undergraduate degree in physics are very valuable in the policy realm. My physics education provided me the necessary tools to bridge the goals of the scientific and political communities. The need for effective comprehension and communication of technical subjects provides an important opportunity for individuals with physics degrees to make substantial contributions to government policy. Science policy should be encouraged as one of the many career pathways for physics students.

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