

Position ID

L17-14

Position Title

Sea Grant Legislative Fellow

Office Name

U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse

Rhode Island

Relevant Committee Memberships (if applicable)

Environment and Public Works, Budget

Portfolio Summary

Since joining the Senate in 2006, Senator Whitehouse has been a national leader on marine issues. The Fellow will work closely with other members of the Senator's environment and energy team in DC and Rhode Island to protect, conserve, and manage our oceans and coasts, with special attention paid towards how climate change will affect these resources. The Fellow's responsibilities will include: helping manage the Senate Oceans Caucus (events, legislation, staff coordination); drafting floor speeches and other public remarks; shepherding legislation and "Dear Colleague" letters; reviewing NOAA's proposed FY18 budget and making recommendations on appropriations requests; taking stakeholder meetings; monitoring fisheries regulations and policies; contributing to background memos, witness biographies, and questions for hearings and markups in the Environment and Public Works Committee; and attending scientific and policy briefings. Though it is difficult to predict what exact issues may come up next year, Senator Whitehouse will remain focused on taking action on climate change, addressing marine debris, protecting wildlife and clean water, supporting sustainable fisheries, building coastal resiliency, and championing strong investments in ocean and coastal research.

Expertise Desired

The Senator works hard and has high expectations for his staff. The Fellow is expected to be diligent, responsible, enthusiastic, efficient, and organized. The environment and energy team is a high energy, collaborative team. Though we often work together on projects, the Fellow should also be comfortable working independently. Particular expertise in fisheries management, small dam removal, and/or advanced monitoring technologies (AUV/drone/satellite) is a plus.

Accepts Foreign Nationals

Yes