

School Innovations and Advocacy Summer 2008

My internship with School Innovations and Advocacy (SI&A) has been a great learning experience. SI&A is an education lobbyist company. My supervisor, Teri Burns was a great mentor and teacher during my internship here. She taught me what was going on in legislation from day to day and clarified and answered any questions I had about legislation, bills, and education policy. I was kept very busy during my internship. I wrote up summaries and analyses of legislation bills. I have read long articles, done research, and watched live chats on the web, and have written up summaries of them for online resources. I have updated and wrote letters from scratch to Assembly Members, Senators and the Governor informing them about specific bills SI&A are in support of on behalf of SI&A's clients, summarizing the bill and informing them about why they should support the bill. I went to many hearings in the Capitol regarding education and reported back to my supervisor on which bills moved forward, which bills failed and which bills were put on suspense. I have also spoken in front of congress in a hearing in support of a bill. I have made calls to Senators, Assembly Members and the California Education Department to get resources and questions answered and updated. I went along to meetings with Teri each week and learned quite a lot about different bills from that. I have read and sorted bills that had to do with education and had significant changes in the amendments. The bills I learned about and wrote about most were education bills for public schools preK-12.