

The Evergreen State College  
Master of Public Administration Program  
Lab 1, Room 3019  
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW  
Olympia, WA 98505

June 5, 2020

Dear Selection Committee,

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Quinn Butler for the Sara Ann Bilezikian Sustainability Fellowship. I have supervised Quinn for the past seven months and I have worked with him and witnessed his incredible talents for over two years as he has led planning efforts for disaster recovery for all of Washington. Quinn continually demonstrates his devotion to public service and desire to help the residents of Washington before, during, and after disasters.

Quinn truly cares for the citizens of our state. Countless times he has gone beyond the call of duty to help people who were impacted by disaster. Quinn has worked tirelessly to ensure Washingtonians receive the assistance they needed after flooding impacted many of our counties in January 2020. Many of the people that his efforts have benefited do not have the means to recovery on their own. It is because of Quinn that Washington received two Presidential Disaster Declarations: one for January 2020 flooding and one for the current COVID-19 pandemic. Quinn wrote each of those two disaster declarations that were signed by the President. They paved the way for hundreds of millions of dollars in assistance to be brought to Washington. Quinn's sense of duty has taken him beyond our state's borders as well. He voluntarily deployed with a team to Nebraska to provide his recovery expertise during major, statewide flooding. He traveled to Hawaii to assist after volcanic eruptions devastated communities. Simply put, Quinn is devoted to his work and genuinely cares for the future of our citizens.

As the state's Recovery Program Manager, Quinn has developed and written the Washington Restoration Framework and Recovery Support Functions. This is the framework that is currently being utilized by our government to support short and long-term recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. It is solely due to Quinn's ability to lead others and his incredible project management skills that this framework is in place and being utilized. Quinn collaborated with over two dozen state agencies and offices to develop the Washington Restoration Framework. Quinn has been sought out by state, local, and tribal leaders as an architect and expert in long-term recovery. Quinn has been able to lead these efforts because of his thoughtful planning efforts, meaningful writing skills, and inherent desire to continually improve.

Sadly, the number of natural and manmade disasters continue to increase and impact us all. Quinn understands and embraces the need for sustainable programs that are vital to recovery and enable a resilient future for our state. He is mindful of the underprivileged in our society



and how disasters impact them. This is reflected in the disaster declarations he has written and in the countless hours he has dedicated to bringing in assistance to our state. His spirit of dedication to public services has truly made our state and nation better. Because of Quinn, Washington is already succeeding in navigating the difficult, long road of recovering from COVID-19. I am proud of the work Quinn continually produces. The financial assistance that this scholarship would provide for Quinn would go beyond his academic success. I have absolutely no doubt that this would help propel Quinn to incredible successes and a bright future.

For the aforementioned reasons and countless others, I wholeheartedly recommend Quinn Butler to be awarded the Sara Ann Bilezikian Sustainability Fellowship. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information. I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



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