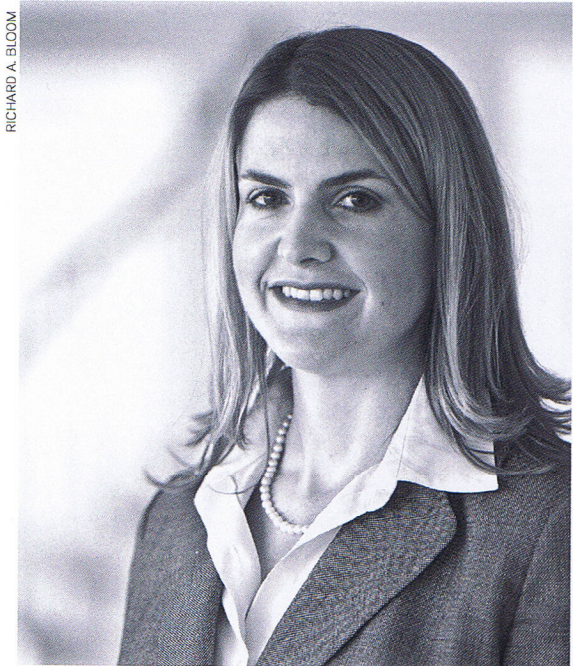


■ Lobby Shops



RICHARD A. BLOOM

Avenue Solutions has the look of a mission-driven organization that stands to gain clout with a new Democratic administration and larger Democratic majorities in Congress. "It's an all-female, all-Democratic firm, and it has a small client base that allows them to stay really personal with their clients," says **Elizabeth Barnett**, who has just joined the firm's partners, **Amy Tejral** and **Tracy Spicer**. "They are so well-respected around town, and very trusted in Democratic circles for their political insights," says Barnett, 34. Spicer formerly worked for Sen. **Edward Kennedy**, D-Mass., and Tejral served in the office of Sen. **Ben Nelson**, D-Neb.

At Avenue Solutions, Barnett expects to focus on health care issues, but she'll also delve into other areas. For the past two years, she lobbied for the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. Before that, Barnett spent six years handling health care policy for Sen. **Blanche Lincoln**, D-Ark. "She has a very good outlook on work and life balance," Barnett says of Lincoln. "She's very smart

and dedicated to her job but also understands that you have to have a life outside of work as well."

Barnett hails from Southern Maryland, home to House Majority Leader **Steny Hoyer**. She came to Washington in late 1996 to work as an intern in Hoyer's office and landed her first full-time gig the next year, as a staff assistant on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee under then-ranking member **Dale Bumpers**, D-Ark. She served as a research assistant at EMILY's List during the 1998 election cycle.

Barnett holds a bachelor's degree in English from Washington College in Chestertown, Md. During her time with Lincoln, she bolstered her résumé by earning a master's in public administration at George Mason University.

When she's not working, Barnett enjoys reading, gardening, and traveling. Her mother is British, and Barnett takes occasional trips to England to visit her grandmother in Essex, just outside London. She also studied in London while she was in college. Barnett met her husband, **Chuck**, when they both worked for Lincoln. He is with the government consulting firm The Alpine Group.

—Gregg Sangillo