

Rachel Pryor, JD, MSW

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services

Deputy Director, Administration

October 2018 – Present

- Deputy Director for Administration of Virginia's Medicaid program covering more than 1.6 million Virginians. Senior executive leader responsible for outreach, eligibility and enrollment operations, policy and regulation, and appeals. Manages nearly 200 staff and the statewide "Cover Virginia" enrollment operation and central processing unit. Demonstrated success with creating and implementing innovative policy solutions, including significantly increasing automatic processing of Medicaid determinations, partnering with the Virginia justice system to modernize enrollment of eligible justice-involved individuals across the state, and streamlining enrollment for pregnant and postpartum women.

U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce

Senior Health Policy Advisor

February 2015 – September 2018

- Senior Committee policy advisor for Congressional Members with responsibility for Medicaid, the CHIP program, Medicare Parts C & D, the 340B program, dual-eligible issues, and long-term care. Briefed and advised Members and staff, negotiated and drafted all major legislative initiatives across portfolio area. Implemented over fifty Committee hearings and Mark-ups. Negotiated major legislative packages enacted into law, including the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act, The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, the 21st Century Cures Act, The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, The SUPPORT Act, and other legislative initiatives.

U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging

Senior Policy Advisor

February 2013 – February 2015

- Managed the Committee's healthcare agenda and staff, including a special focus on prescription drug issues in Medicare and Medicaid, selected Medicare payment policies, the Medicare and Medicaid appeals process, the dual-eligible population, elder abuse, and the Older Americans Act programs. Implemented Committee hearings, drafted legislation, oversaw ongoing investigations, and advised the Chairman and Committee members.

Office of U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal

Legislative Assistant

February 2011 – February 2013

- Developed comprehensive health policy portfolio with demonstrated legislative success, including the passage of thirteen original Blumenthal legislative provisions in the 2012 FDA Reauthorization. Achieved significant advancements to preserve fair access to family planning providers in the Medicaid program. Advanced the Senator's public health agenda on elder abuse prevention, tobacco issues, and long-term care through legislation, field hearings, and roundtables. Managed a legislative team to ensure strategic direction of the Senator's priorities. Drafted legislation, talking points, op-eds, and staffed the Senator for all hearings on the Senate HELP and Senate Aging Committees.

Office of U.S. Senator John D. Rockefeller IV
Legislative Aide

October 2009 – February 2011

- Developed vote recommendations, talking points, rebuttal points, and daily memos for the Senator to provide background and analysis on healthcare issues, and provided support during Senate Finance Committee hearings and mark-ups. Designed and implemented new appropriations system and process, incorporating appropriations-related projects into a statewide strategy on manufacturing growth and economic development in the state. Managed a portfolio of \$400 million in appropriations requests to Senate Appropriations Subcommittees.

Ascension Health

Health Policy Advisor, Policy and Coalitions

October 2008 – October 2009

- Developed legislative proposals and political strategies for the largest non-profit hospital system in the country to influence the national policy debate. Analyzed policy proposals to determine impact on local Ascension Health hospitals. Acted as the liaison between individual Ascension Health hospitals, Congress, and agency personnel on regulatory concerns. Designed and worked with Ascension Health Hospitals and Ascension Health senior leadership to coordinate a system-wide grassroots strategy on CHIP and health care reform.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

HRSA Scholar/Public Health Analyst

September 2007 – October 2008

Public Health Practicum: Maternal and Child Health Bureau

August 2006 – August 2007

- One of 50 candidates chosen from over 800 applicants to receive a year-long fellowship within the Health Resources and Services Administration. Primed agency witnesses for Congressional hearings, constructing testimony and briefing materials. Participated on a cross-agency team charged with developing the 2008 Health Professional Shortage Area regulation. Completed a year-long practicum with a special focus on the Title V Maternal and Child Health Program, managing grants for perinatal depression in the Healthy Start program.

EDUCATION

- Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC. Juris Doctor, May 2019
- University of Maryland, Baltimore. Master of Social Work, Dual Clinical Macro-Health Policy focuses, May 2007
- Saint Louis University, St. Louis. Bachelor of Arts, May 2005

AWARDS

- "Extraordinary Contributor" award, Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services for efforts related to Virginia's expansion of Medicaid, Spring 2019
- POLITICO "Emerging Healthcare Leader" Fall 2014
- America's Essential Hospitals Congressional Staff Leadership Award, Spring 2017
- Recipient of the Jesuit Education Scholarship, 2001 – 2005