

Alexander Payne

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Congresswoman Kim Schrier, M.D. (WA-08), Washington, DC

Legislative Director; February 2019-Present

- Manage the Congresswoman's legislative team, which consists of three additional staff. Establish and track short-, medium-, and long-term projects helping the team establish benchmarks and complete deliverables are on time. Implemented procedures to draft, introduce, and cosponsor legislation, letters, and appropriations priorities. Guide the staff in finding opportunities for amendment introduction, bill ideas, vote recommendations, and troubleshooting challenges with other offices and district concerns. Revise and edit bill text, letters, and talking points or remarks generated by the legislative team.
- Develop and execute a legislative agenda for a Freshman Member of Congress representing a frontline, swing district consisting of both suburban and agricultural constituencies.
- Within the first five months of the Member's time in Congress, introduced more than one bill per month, with three passing the House, and one signed into law; two amendments were also included in House-passed legislation. Passed legislation ranged across issues from agriculture to child welfare.
- Advise the Congresswoman, a member of the New Democrat Coalition, on education, tax, appropriations, budget, labor, and child welfare issues by providing vote recommendations, policy memos, talking points, remarks, and staffing the Congresswoman in meetings with constituents, lobbyists, trade groups, and other stakeholders.

Committee on Education and Labor – US House of Representatives, Washington, DC

Education & Workforce Development Policy Advisor; January 2018-February 2019

- Guided negotiations for frontline workforce development issues, such as Career and Technical Education and college access programs, in addition to the policy areas covered as Education Policy Advisor. Held discussions with Republican staff to find legislative agreement and developed section-by-section, bill summary, and issue briefs to aid the process. Brainstormed ideas with Democratic staff to ensure Democratic priorities stayed in a final agreement.
- Guided bipartisan negotiations for Perkins Career and Technical Education reauthorization as the chief negotiator for Democratic Members. The bill passed the House unanimously and was signed by the President.

Education Policy Advisor; August 2015-January 2018

- Led policy efforts for early childhood education, child welfare, and national service issues. Served as counsel for the Chairman at hearings and markups on these issues. Organized these Committee hearings and markups, including inviting witnesses, briefing other committee members and staff, writing messaging talking points for all members, policy memos on the hearing or markup and predicting potential Republican amendments to provide point-counterpoint information to convince members to oppose damaging proposals.
- Lead researcher for the Committee's response to the water crisis in Flint, Michigan, which included letters to agencies, congressional briefings, and a policy proposal submitted to Congress and the White House.
- Wrote or co-wrote eight bills and amendments that became law under a Republican Congress and President. Co-authored the Child Care for Working Families Act. The bill was the basis for Senator Elizabeth Warren's Presidential campaign proposal on universal child care. The bill was endorsed by House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, received over 140 cosponsors, and culminated a nearly two-year long collaboration with Members, advocates, and other stakeholders.
- Advised and staffed Education and Labor Committee Chairman Bobby Scott (VA-03), a member of the Congressional Black Caucus on committee issues by providing vote recommendations, policy memos, talking points, remarks, and staffing the Chairman in meetings with constituents, lobbyists, trade groups, and other stakeholders.

First Five Years Fund, Washington, DC

Policy Associate; November 2014-August 2015

- Led the organization's response to various Federal Government initiatives, including Congress' request for comment on Head Start reauthorization and the Department of Health and Human Services' proposed rule on Head Start standards.
- Composed the script for panel sessions of The White House's *Invest in US* Summit on Early Childhood Education. Panel moderators included cabinet-level Secretaries Arne Duncan and Julian Castro. Panelists included philanthropists, university researchers, mayors, and grassroots advocates.
- Drafted legislative language, fact sheets, and remarks for the Executive and National Directors.
- Conducted outreach to Republican offices to gain bipartisan support for early childhood education issues.
- Analyzed early childhood legislation and composed recommendations and amending language for Congressional offices.
- Oversaw the work of lobbyists hired by the First Five Years Fund to assist in the above responsibilities.

Congressman Rush Holt (NJ-12), Washington, DC

Legislative Assistant; August 2014-November 2014

- Served as the Congressman's policy advisor for education, healthcare, and disabilities. Drafted legislation addressing school district HR policies and teacher professional development. Fulfilled the same responsibilities described below.

Teach For America Congressional Fellow; August 2013-July 2014

- Served as the Congressman's legislative advisor for education, healthcare, and taxes to support his role as a member of the Education and Labor Committee and the Congressional Progressive Caucus. Drafted original legislation creating a master teacher corps. Wrote remarks, issue summaries, and over 2400 individual responses to constituent mail.
- Managed the House STEM App Competition for the Congressman and his Congressional District.
- Addressed district issues, such as school construction funding and non-profit status of organizations, by conducting stakeholder outreach and forming professional relationships with local activists, local government entities, and trade organizations.

Partnership for Public Service, Washington, DC

Associate Manager – Government Transformation and Agency Partnerships; December 2012-July 2013

- Developed a supervisor training and managed content delivery of current services that helped government agencies create more effective and engaging work environments. Agency employee engagement scores improved by 3%-50% after receiving these services. All services received, at least, a 95% "would recommend to a colleague" rating.
- Ensured, as part of a 4-person team, fulfillment of services that generated \$150,000-450,000 in annual revenue.
- Coordinated with Deloitte to organize and host two, 100-person government workshops.

Obama for America, Several States

National Advance Team Consultant; July-November 2012

- Designed and executed logistics for campaign events and fundraisers holding between 50-6,000 people.
- Managed one direct report and up to 115 volunteers at any given event.
- Coordinated scores of payments, implemented logistics and security plans in partnership with the US Secret Service, and fulfilled promises to vendors, partners, and host organizations.

Kids.Gov – Office of Citizen Services and Innovation; General Services Administration, Syracuse, NY

Graduate Consultant, May 2012-June 2012

- Identified website improvement areas relating to interactivity, ease of use, and content improvement.
- Recommended solutions to improve usability by the website's younger user demographic.

- Communicated with government, non-profit, and for-profit organizations to propose and develop future partnerships with Kids.Gov.
- Conducted three focus groups to determine middle school children's internet use and interaction.
- Co-authored a 70-page report explaining academic research, focus group findings, content improvement recommendations, potential partnerships, and marketing and outreach strategies.

Teach For America/Northampton County High School – West, Gaston, NC

World History and Civics & Economics (CE) Instructor and Teach For America Corps Member; June 2009-June 2011

- Increased student scores, using data-driven instruction, on the End of Course (EOC) State Test in CE by 36 percentage points (from 34-70%). Authored the curriculum, which helped lead to the improved test scores.
- Revitalized the varsity baseball program as head coach by implementing a different practice schedule, developing in-game strategies, and fostering relationships with players. Improved the team's record by 300% and earned a state playoff berth.
- Restarted the school trivia team and led the team to victory over the defending sectional champions through implementation of recurring practices, instruction of deductive reasoning skills, and provision of after-school transportation so students would be able to attend additional instructional sessions.
- Created Men of Honor, a club to help high school boys become more respected and honored by their peers and community through learning manners, respect for females, social awareness, and activism.

Mokpo Catholic University, Mokpo, South Korea

English teacher for the college's Summer English Program; Summer 2010

- Co-authored an English textbook, which provided students a more interactive way to learn English.
- Taught English reading, writing, and speaking skills to Korean college students.
- Created and orchestrated a cultural exchange event including an authentic American dinner for 45 students.

Obama for America – Obama Organizing Fellows, Athens, OH

Grassroots field organizer for Barack Obama's 2008 presidential campaign; June-August 2008

- Recruited and managed over 20 volunteers to execute get out the vote efforts.

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

Certificate of Financial Planning and Services, August 2020

Maxwell School, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

Master of Public Administration, Concentration in Social Policy, June 2012

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

B.S., Policy Analysis and Management, Concentrations in Government and Consumer Policy, May 2009

SKILLS & VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- Advanced in Microsoft Excel. Understanding of Salesforce, Prezi, and SPSS.
- Cornell Club of Washington VP of Scholarships and Board Member; Arlington Public Schools CTE Advisory Council; AHC Inc. College Readiness Mentor; Asian American Congressional Staff Advisory Board Member; LGBTQ Congressional Staff Association Member