

# Michele Evermore

## Experience

### **National Employment Law Project** **2018-present**

- Research and provide policy expertise on unemployment insurance, retirement security and other labor related issues as they arise.
- Provide technical assistance to Congress, the press, and allies to advance sound policy
- Testified before the Senate Finance Committee and the House Oversight Committee Special Select Committee on the Coronavirus
- Appear regularly in national news outlets including Washington Post, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, CNN, Good Morning America, NPR, Marketplace, AP, Reuters, USA Today, CBS, ABC, CNBC, CSPAN, Politico, The Hill, Roll Call, Bloomberg, Business Insider, Huffington Post, Slate, Time, People, Forbes, Fortune, McClatchy, Financial Times, MarketWatch, VICE, Wired, FiveThirtyEight, VOX, as well as many large regional newspapers, radio shows, and television news.

### **Service Employees International Union, Local 1199 – Political Organizer** **2016-2018**

- Lobbied the Connecticut legislature on healthcare worker issues, including protecting disability services funding, fighting privatization of state worker jobs, improving pension security, worker compensation for home care workers, and improving revenue to protect state workers
- Organize support for candidates in state level primary and general elections

### **University of Massachusetts - Labor Studies Research and Teaching Assistant** **2014-2016**

- Served as a TA for courses on Food and Labor, Labor and the Global Economy, and Labor Studies
- Worked with professors to research a wide variety of issues including economic development policy in South Carolina and its effect on workers, the Canadian logistics system, the effect of coordinated labor efforts on state minimum wage policy, and strategic corporate research issues
- Consulted with the American Federation of Teachers, primarily on the concentration of hedge funds in public sector pensions, and also as needed on other research areas

### **Senator Tom Harkin – Legacy Coordinator** **2014**

- Because of the quantity and quality of work I performed in previous positions with Senator Harkin, I was asked to return to the office as he was retiring to compile records, document his forty year legacy in the House and Senate, develop documents describing his work in key legislative areas, quantify the effects of his efforts on communities in Iowa, and plan events celebrating his legacy.

### **Pew Charitable Trusts – Project Manager, Public Sector Retirement Systems** **2012-2014**

- Worked with several states with severely underfunded public employee pensions to develop strategies to help them consider possible options, understand what is known about each, then make decisions based on the best available information

### **National Nurses United – Legislative Advocate** **2010-2012**

- As the first full-time lobbyist for a new national union, developed extensive national lobbying agenda
- Developed safe patient handling legislation and nurse-to-patient ratio legislation, and helped to advance these issues in Congress
- Worked with other unions to promote collective bargaining rights for nurses at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- Educated nurses and state government affairs staff on federal issues and effective advocacy techniques

### **United States Department of Labor – Senior Legislative Officer Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs**

**2009-2010**

- Helped nominees gain Senate confirmation by preparing Committee nomination paperwork, preparing for hearings, developing rebuttal materials, and briefing nominees on legislative issues
- Performed Congressional liaison work for the Employee Benefits Security Administration, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the Office of Disability Employment Policy
- Assisted in development of testimony and other communications to Congress
- Assisted in development and delivery of technical and policy assistance to Congress

**United States Senate, Senator Tom Harkin - Legislative Assistant** **2007-2009**  
**Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions**

- Managed Senator Harkin's labor, pension, and Social Security portfolio
- Played major role in advancing high priority labor legislation
- Developed legislation to protect retirement security of millions of Americans
- Worked to improve mental health services for veterans and active duty troops
- Played key role in advancing the Employee Free Choice Act
- Drafted S. 401, the Defined Contribution Fee Disclosure Act of 2009; held hearings on high fees participants pay in 401(k)-type plans
- Worked to raise visibility of wage gap between men and women through legislation, hearings, press conferences, and two General Accountability Office investigations
- Drafted legislation to expand overtime and minimum wage coverage to home care workers
- Developed S. 1725, the Restoring Pension Promises to Workers Act of 2007, to re-link rank-and-file benefits with special executive retirement packages

**United States House of Representatives – Legislative Associate** **2005-2006**  
**Committee on Education and the Workforce**

- As a key committee staffer, used expertise in labor, health care, pension and other issues to help committee members to advance their priorities
- In briefings and detailed memos, educated Congressional staff on issues pending before the committee
- Helped pass three amendments to protect retirement security of millions of Americans and participated in the House-Senate negotiation over the final pension Pension Protection Act
- Successfully managed hearings on immigration and health care reform in the states
- Fought to ensure Congress debated and voted on an increase in the minimum wage; worked with federal and state groups to raise public awareness

**United States Senate, Senator Tom Harkin - Legislative Assistant** **2001-2005**

- Developed and aided enactment of legislation relating to pensions, banking, housing, small business, Social Security, and Homeland Security and appropriations for Interior; Energy and Water; Homeland Security; Veterans, Housing and Urban Development; as well as for Defense construction projects
- Developed outreach and public relations strategies for Iowa communities to help them craft economic development plans to effectively use available federal resources
- Helped sick energy workers receive compensation through the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program by working to designate a Special Exposure Cohort, making them eligible for automatic compensation.
- Led Senator's efforts in pension reform to protect older workers whose companies converted from traditional pensions to cash balance plans in ways that eroded their accrued benefits
- Fought efforts to privatize the Social Security system by leading efforts in the Senate to educate Members and staff about disability and survivor benefits and held numerous town halls throughout Iowa

**U.S. Senate, Senator Tom Harkin - Legislative Correspondent/Staff Assistant** **1999-2001**

- Managed constituent correspondence on variety of state and national issues, conducted legislative research, drafted speeches

**Education**

**B.A. in Interpersonal Rhetoric and Communication, Iowa State University** **1993-1997**

**M.S. in Labor Studies – University of Massachusetts, Amherst** **2014-2016**