

Adele B. Robinson

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Karabelle Pizzigati Endowed Clinical Professor, February 2017 to present
Advocacy for Children, Youth and Families
University of Maryland College Park

Joint School of Public Policy/Public Health appointment

- Developed and launched new program focused on expanding the number of public policy advocates working on behalf of low-income children, youth and families.
- Awarded two consecutive grants from Heising-Simon Foundation for strategic planning and to produce two advocacy case studies.
- Published case study of advocacy efforts in Philadelphia and Santa Fe to tax sweetened beverages in order to expand prekindergarten slot. (available at www.publicpolicy.umd.edu/pizzigati/research)
- Conducted three-day advocacy training institute for individuals working in social services and social justice organizations from five states
- Teach undergraduate courses in child and family policy and advocacy focused on health care, hunger, early childhood education, and gun violence with focus on disparities of income, race, and immigration status.
- Reviewer for expert panel report of the National Academies of Sciences, *Transforming the Financing of Early Care and Education*.
- Member, Board of Directors, Parents As Teachers National Center.

Administration for Children and Families, 2014 - 2016
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Temporary Expert Consultant (full time)

- Collaborated across Offices of Child Care, Head Start, and Early Childhood Development within the Administration for Children and Families and with U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Labor to provide policy interpretation and guidance.
- Lead author of sections on professional development and training in the 2016 regulations for the Child Care and Development Block.
- Authored the Policy Statement on Early Childhood Career Pathways.
- Drafted Information Memorandum on access to child care assistance through the Child Care and Development Block Grant for low-income parents in educational programs; drafted report to Congress on early childhood programs across the federal government.
- October 2014 to April 20, 2015 independent contractor on policy papers for state agencies and national organizations.

National Association for the Education of Young Children
Deputy Executive Director, Policy & Public Affairs

1999 - 2014

- Led strategy for public policy efforts, including direct lobbying at the federal level, public policy analysis, coalition leadership, partnerships with researchers and other organizations, and technical assistance to state policymakers, program administrators and advocates.
- Created the annual Public Policy Forum to bring organization's members to Washington, DC for senior level policy discussions and visits with Congressional delegations to cultivate policy leadership.
- Successfully led effort for an appropriation for National Academies of Sciences (NAS) panel on child assessment that led to a report that is referenced in multiple early childhood education bills as a standard for child assessment.
- Presented at multiple national and state conferences, state boards and commissions, and Congressional briefings.
- Supervised public policy, media relations, and research scholar staff.
- Managed budget for public policy and public affairs.
- Successfully sought philanthropic funding to expand state technical assistance work.

National Education Association
Senior Professional Associate, Government Relations

1996 - 1999

- Advanced NEA positions with Congress and the Administration relating to Title I, teacher quality, literacy, charter schools, higher education, and private school vouchers.
- Worked closely with state field team, political action staff, and communications/media division on variety of NEA national advocacy positions.
- Selected to lead inter-division agenda for national and state advocacy efforts
- With other government relations team members, created and hosted first-ever NEA event at the Republican National Convention.
- Co-founded coalition of K-12 national lobbyists to act as a collective voice for public education at federal level.
- Created implementation guides for state affiliates on new federal programs, such as charter school grants.

National Association of State Boards of Education
Director of Government Relations

1992 - 1996

- Directed federal policy program and lobbied Congress and Administration and served as liaison to governing board's public policy committee.
- Served as member of the Governing Board of the Committee for Education Funding.
- Chaired multi-organization National School Health Coalition advocacy committee.
- Elevated the visibility of state boards of education in the Goals 2000: Educate America Act and 1994 reauthorization of the Elementary & Secondary Education Act.
- Implemented policy conference bringing together state board members from around the country for high-level national briefings.

**United States Senate, Committee on Labor & Human Resources (now HELP) 1990 - 1992
Legislative Assistant and Legislative Fellow (Senators Kennedy and Adams)**

- Successfully led Senate Appropriations Committee efforts to restore proposed cut to the Child Care & Development Block Grant and wrote legislation to fund additional child care for deployed Persian Gulf personnel.
- Drafted and negotiated legislation in the 1991 Higher Education Act, the Improving America's Schools Act, fetal alcohol syndrome, child care for deployed military and reserves, and LIHEAP and supported health care staff on fetal tissue research and mammography standards legislation.
- Responsible for appropriations priorities related to education and children's programs.
- Wrote floor statements, talking points, questions for hearing witness, and briefs on authorizing and appropriations legislation.

Attorney Experience

Sally & Fitch, Boston, MA	1988 – 1990
Davis, Malm & D'Agostine, Boston, MA	1987 – 1988

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Book

Robinson, A. and Stark, B. (2001, revised 2005) *Advocates in Action: Making A Difference for Young Children*. National Association for the Education of Young Children, Washington, DC.

Book Chapter

Robinson, A. (2016) Effective Advocacy Practices. Sage Encyclopedia of Contemporary Early Childhood Education.

Journals

- Allvin, R.E. and Robinson, A. (2014) *Why the U.S. Doesn't Deliver on the Promise of High Quality Early Childhood Education*, National Journal Washington, D.C.
- Robinson, A. *Beyond Ma Goose: Examining Today's Complex System of Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Education Program Accreditation and State Policies*. National Association of State Boards of Education, Alexandria, VA 2001.
- *Risky Credit: Tuition Tax Credits and Issues of Accountability and Equity*, Stanford Law & Policy Review 11, 2000.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Regulations, Policy Statements, and Letters

- Preamble and regulatory language for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, September 30, 2016. Sections relating to state plans, temporary relief extensions, and training and professional development.
- Letter to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Standard Occupations Classifications Policy Committee from the Early Childhood Division of the Administration for Children and

Families with recommendations for changes in the classification of educators working in child care and other early childhood settings.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Policy Statement on Early Childhood Career Pathways*. June 2016.

Selected Policy Briefs and other Advocacy Materials

- *Taxing Sugary Beverages to Expand Pre-Kindergarten: The Advocacy Stories of Philadelphia and Santa Fe*. 2018 (University of Maryland College Park, Schools of Public Health and Public Policy)
- *Early Childhood Teacher Certification: The current state policies landscape and opportunities*. National Association for the Education of Young Children. 2014.
- *Call to Action* priorities of the National Association for the Education of Young Children for multiple Congresses.
- *The Preschool Imperative: What boards need to know about early learning*, National School Boards Association, Policy Research Brief, Fall/Winter 2003.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- 2018 Presentation for T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood National Center Compensation Summit with Anne Mitchell, *Policy and Funding Levers in Support of Compensation: What Policies Do We Need and Where Will The Funding Come From?*
- 2017 Presentation for National Governors' Association, *Early Childhood Career Pathways*
- 2014 Testimony before the Pennsylvania Democratic Policy Committee on universal pre-kindergarten and kindergarten
- 2012 Webinar presentation for the National Conference of State Legislatures, *Revolutionizing Early Childhood Teaching*
- 2010 Testimony before the Connecticut State Senate, Education and Human Services Committee on federal funding opportunities
- 2010 Congressional Briefing sponsored by the Open Society Institute and Wilson Center on the Hill *Early Childhood Development: Why It Matters in the U.S. and Worldwide*

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Boston University School of Law, J.D.

Yale University, B.A.