

Panel

Donald M. Payne is a Democratic Representative of the 10th Congressional District of New Jersey. First elected to the House of Representatives in 1988, he was New Jersey's first African American Congressman. Now in his twelfth term, he is a senior member of the House Education and Labor Committee where he serves on the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections. He is also a senior member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs where he serves as the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health and Human Rights. He also serves as the Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation which advances the global black community through leadership development internship and fellowship programs, informs public policy and educates the public. Prior to his election to Congress he served as an educator in the Newark and Passaic Public School Districts, as a member of the Newark Municipal Council and the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and as the Essex County Democratic Chairman. He is a graduate of Seaton Hall University and pursued graduate studies at Springfield College in Massachusetts.

Thomas E. Petri is a Republican Representative of the 6th Congressional District of Wisconsin. First elected to the House of Representatives in 1979, he is now serving his 16th term in the Congress. He is a member of the House Education and Labor and Transportation and Infrastructure committees. He previously served on the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, now renamed the Ethics Committee, and is a member and former chairman of the House British-American Parliamentary Group. Prior to his election to Congress he was a Peace Corps volunteer in Somalia where he stayed on to work with the Agency for International Development. He was executive director of the Republican Ripon Society and was director of crime studies in the Nixon White House, focusing on anti-drug efforts. He earned a B.A. degree from Harvard College and a law degree from Harvard Law School.

William T. Gormley, Jr. is professor of public policy at Georgetown University and co-director of the Center for Research on Children in the U.S. at the Georgetown Public Policy Institute. His research and teaching interests include public policy analysis and evaluation, early childhood education policy, bureaucratic politics, and federalism and intergovernmental relations. He is author of "Everybody's Children: Child Care as a Public Problem," and "Taming the Bureaucracy," and coauthor of "Bureaucracy and Democracy," and "Organizational Report Cards." For the past ten years, he has served as the principal investigator for an evaluation of Oklahoma's universal pre-K program. He is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and a past president of the American Political Science Association's Public Policy Section. He earned a B.A. degree in political science from the University of Pittsburgh, and a Ph.D. degree in political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Laura Moore is Project and Policy Manager at Civic Enterprises, a public policy firm that helps corporations, non-profits, foundations, universities and governments develop and spearhead innovative public policies to strengthen communities and the nation. Most recently she co-authored "Building a Grad Nation: Progress and Challenge in Ending the High School Dropout Epidemic." She is also co-author of "Closing the College Completion Gap," "Untapped Potential," and "Raising Their Voices." Prior to becoming a policy analyst at Civic Enterprises in 2009, she served as an English language teacher in Ecuador through WorldTeach, where she also served as one of the organization's program assistants. She earned a B.A. in Social Studies from Harvard College in 2009 where she also served as an executive editor and reporter for the *Harvard Crimson*.