

**Statement of
William J. Emanuel
Nominee for Member of the National Labor Relations Board
Before the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, United States Senate
July 13, 2017**

Chairman Alexander, Ranking Member Murray, and Members of the Committee:

I am honored to appear before you today as a nominee for the National Labor Relations Board. My wife Betsy is seated behind me. Our three children are busy with their careers and family responsibilities in California and could not be here on short notice.

I am grateful to President Trump for nominating me for this position. There is no greater honor for a labor lawyer than serving as a Member of the NLRB.

I believe I am well qualified for this position. I have practiced law as a labor and employment lawyer in Los Angeles for my entire career, which has spanned several decades. During that time, I have focused primarily on traditional labor law issues, which involve the NLRB and the National Labor Relations Act. In addition to litigating labor cases before the Board and the courts, my practice has involved collective bargaining, strikes and picket lines, labor arbitration, labor injunctions, organizing campaigns, unfair labor practice charges, and the other issues labor lawyers confront on a daily basis.

In addition, I represented a major hospital association during the deliberations by Congress over the health care amendments to the NLRA, which were enacted in 1974. This involved negotiating the language of the amendments with union representatives, and also testifying at two hearings before the Senate Labor Committee. Subsequently, I testified before the Board when it adopted special rules for hospital bargaining units, which were adopted in 1989.

I have also served for many years as a contributing editor of *The Developing Labor Law*, which is the leading treatise on the NLRA. In addition, I have actively participated in committees of the American Bar Association and other organizations that focus on that statute. And in 1994, I served on an advisory committee for the NLRB on agency procedures.

As a result of my years of experience in the practice of labor law and my bar association activities, I am personally acquainted with all of the current Board members, which should be helpful in discussing and resolving the complex issues to be decided by the Board.

In addition to my professional experience in the field of labor law, I also understand the workplace from a practical standpoint. During my college and high school years, I worked as a railroad switchman, brewery worker, construction worker, bartender, grocery clerk, and in several other jobs.

In 1998, I was honored by being elected as a Fellow of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers, which includes labor lawyers on the union side as well as those who represent employers.

I earned my undergraduate degree at Marquette University, and my law degree at Georgetown University.

I look forward to working with the other Board members in resolving the difficult issues that the Board will face in the next several years.

Thank you.