



Download Photo

William E. Spriggs

Chief Economist to the AFL-CIO

POLICY FOCUS



Better Pay and Benefits

Follow @WSpriggs

9,304 followers

Contact the Press Office

Phone: 202-637-5018

Email: [pressclips\[at\]aflcio.org](mailto:pressclips[at]aflcio.org)

William Spriggs is a professor in, and former chair of, the Department of Economics at Howard University and serves as chief economist to the AFL-CIO. In his role with the AFL-CIO, he chairs the Economic Policy Working Group for the



the board of the National Bureau of Economic Research.

From 2009 to 2012, Spriggs served as assistant secretary for the Office of Policy at the Department of Labor, having been appointed by President Barack Obama, and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. At the time of his appointment, he also served as chairman of the Health Care Trust for UAW Retirees of the Ford Motor Co.; chairman of the UAW Retirees of the Dana Corporation Health and Welfare Trust; vice chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Political Education and Leadership Institute; on the joint National Academy of Sciences and National Academy of Public Administration's Committee on the Fiscal Future for the United States; senior fellow of the Community Service Society of New York; and served on the boards of the National Employment Law Project and very briefly for the Eastern Economic Association.

Spriggs' previous work experience includes roles leading economic policy development and research as a senior fellow and economist at the Economic Policy Institute; executive director for the Institute for Opportunity and Equality of the National Urban League; senior adviser for the Office of Government Contracting and Business Development for the U.S. Small Business Administration; senior adviser and economist for the Economics and Statistics Administration of the Department of Commerce; economist for the Democratic staff of the Joint Economic Committee of Congress; and staff director for the independent, federal National Commission for Employment Policy. He is a former president of the National Economics Association, the organization of America's professional black economists.

He graduated from Williams College in Massachusetts and holds a doctorate in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He also taught six years at Norfolk State University and for two years at North Carolina A&T State University.

He is a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance and the National Academy of Public Administration.

Select type

MEDIA HIT

Bill Spriggs Is Among Black Economists to Celebrate and Know (Forbes)

June 18, 2020

V

MEDIA HIT

Bill Spriggs on Racism and Discrimination in Modern Economics (Marketplace)

June 11, 2020

V

MEDIA HIT

Bill Spriggs on Race and Economic Analysis Models (The Wall Street Journal)

June 5, 2020

V

MEDIA HIT

Bill Spriggs on the Pandemic's Effect on Joblessness (NPR)

October 4, 2019

V

MEDIA HIT

Bill Spriggs Says Wage Growth Is Still Struggling (CBS News)

February 2, 2018

V

MEDIA HIT



Angeles Times)

Load More



Y Get Email Updates

Email Address

ZIP

SIGN UP →



Text **WORK** to **235246**

to receive periodic text alerts from the AFL-CIO (message and data rates may apply).



Contact Us

- About Us
- Affiliated Unions
- Careers and Apprenticeships
- Executive Council Statements
- Labor History
- Leadership
- Our Unions and Allies
- Programs
- Blog
- AFLCIO.tv
- Form a Union
- Press
- Press Releases
- Speeches
- Take Action
- Union Plus Benefits
- What Unions Do
- Corporate Accountability
- Social and Economic Justice Advocacy
- Workplace Advocacy

- What We Care About
- Better Pay and Benefits
- Civil Rights
- Corporate Greed
- Criminal Justice Reform
- Gender Equality
- Global Worker Rights
- Health Care
- Immigration
- Infrastructure
- Labor Law
- Manufacturing
- Quality Education
- Right to Work
- Sexual Harassment
- Social Security and Retirement
- Tax and Budget Policy
- Trade
- Workplace Health and Safety
- Legislative Alerts
- Legislative Voting Records
- Reports





[Privacy Policy & Terms of Use](#)