Guide to the Richard (Dick) Ackerman Papers

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Guide to the Richard (Dick) Ackerman Papers

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Guide to the Richard (Dick) Ackerman Papers
Dates: 1995-2008
Collection number: LP452
Creator: Ackerman, Richard (Dick)
Collection Size: 9 cubic feet of textual records and 4 videocassettes
Repository: California State Archives
Sacramento, California


Physical location: California State Archives
Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

While the majority of the records are open for research, any access restrictions are noted in the record series descriptions.

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Agency History

Richard (Dick) Ackerman, Republican, served in the California Legislature from 1995-2008. He was first elected into the California State Assembly winning a September special election runoff vote over Shirely Hafner (Dem). Ackerman ran unopposed for the position in both the 1996 primary and general election. During his Assembly term he represented the 72nd Assembly District, encompassing the cities of Fullerton, Placentia and Yorba Linda. After Ackerman's Assembly term ended in 2000, he moved onto the State Senate, by winning the vacant Senate seat formerly occupied by John Lewis (Rep). Ackerman represented the 33rd Senate District, which encompassed the eastern portion of Orange County, until 2008. On May 10, 2004 Ackerman was elected as the Senate Republican leader and served as the Senate Minority Leader. He stepped down as Minority Leader in April 2008, relinquishing the position to Senator Dave Cogdill.
Dick Ackerman was born on December 5, 1942, in Long Beach, California. Ackerman graduated from University of California, Berkeley with a bachelor's degree in mathematics before entering the U.C. Hastings School of Law. Ackerman's political career started with the Fullerton City Council where he served for twelve years. While in the city council, he served as Mayor of Fullerton in 1982 and 1986. At the local level, Ackerman served on the California State University, Fullerton's President's Advisory Board and the Board of Trustees of the Southern California College of Optometry. Ackerman and his wife, Linda, have three children and two grandchildren.

As a State Legislator, Ackerman's legislative interests were varied, from business growth, education reform, and tax reduction. He also authored numerous bills related to public safety, tort reform, and welfare reform.

During his term in the California Legislature, Ackerman served on the following committees according to the California Legislature at Sacramento (Handbooks), Assembly Final History, and Pocket Directory of the California Legislature.

**California State Assembly, 1995-2000**

**Standing Committees**

Appropriations, 1996-2000

Education, 1996

Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments, 1996

Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials, 1996

Governmental Organization, 1999-2000


Judiciary, 1999-2000

Vice Chair, 2000

Legislative Ethics, 1997-1998

Co-Chair, 1998

Local Government, 1996

Natural Resources, 1996

Vice Chair, 1996

Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security, 1996

Rules, 1996.

**Subcommittees**


**Select Committees**

California Wine Industry, 1999-2000

Jobs-Housing Balance, 1999-2000

Legislative Ethics, 1997-1998


**California State Senate, 2001-2008**

**Standing Committees**

Budget and Fiscal Review, Vice Chair, 2001-2004

Government Modernization, Efficiency, and Accountability, 2006

Housing and Community Development, 2001-2004

Judiciary, 2001-2008

Vice Chair, 2006

Labor and Industrial Relations, 2005-2008

Legislative Ethics, 2007-2008

Vice Chair, 2007

Local Government, 2001-2006

**Subcommittees**

Budget and Fiscal Review, Legislative, Executive Public Safety, and General Government, 2002-2004

Judicial and Bad Faith Liability and Consumer Rights, 2003-2004

**Select Committees**


The Subject Files and Press Releases additionally reflect upon Ackerman's political activities during his tenure with the California State legislature. Notable subject files relate to the 1995 Orange County bankruptcy crisis, Title IX gender equity, and the California budget and fiscal highlights. Press releases include articles reflecting Ackerman's political opinions, such as tax reform, obscenity in the digital age, and education protection.

Accruals
No further accruals are expected.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Economic development
Consumer protection-California
Local government-California
Public safety
Series 1 Bill Files 1995-2008

Physical Description: 137 file folders

Arrangement

Bill Files are arranged chronologically by legislative session, then numerically by bill number.

Scope and Content Note

Bill Files were created by Dick Ackerman while he served as an Assembly Member from 1995-2000 and State Senator from 2001-2008. The files may include bill analyses, amendments and resolutions, author's statements, testimony, press releases, newspaper clippings, correspondence, and committee statements that pertain to numerous issues of concern to Ackerman.


Among his other legislative interests, Ackerman advocated for pro-business legislation such as corporate merging (SB 324, 2001-2002), corporate securities (SB400, 2001-2002), consumer protection (AB2582 and AB1569, 1999-2000; SB916, 2001-2002), and small business incentives (AB2505, 1997-1998).

1995-1996 (19ff), AB2503-AB3412 LP452:1-19
1997-1998 (19ff), AB159-AB2523 LP452:20-38
2001-2002 (25ff), SB3-SB2041, SCR40-SCR76, SB2X2 LP452:64-88
2003-2004 (21ff), SB42-SB1746, SJR19 LP452:89-109
2005-2006 (19ff), SB25-SB1787, SR7 LP452:110-128
2007-2008 (10ff), SB273-SB1631, SJR29, SCR40 LP452:129-138

LP452:138-152 Series 2 Subject Files 1995-1999

Physical Description: 15 file folders and 4 Videocassettes

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Access Information

Access to audiovisual material requires the production of use copies.

Scope and Content Note

Subject Files include press and news clippings, correspondence, support letters, bill analyses, local government reports and/or interest group memorandum regarding certain subject files at the local, state and federal levels. The topics addressed cover a broad spectrum of issues, from illegal immigration to economic recovery to private jail abuse, and reflect Ackerman's legislative interests.

See Appendix A in Master Finding Aid on the California State Archives website for a complete listing of subject headings

LP452:154-167 Series 3 Correspondence 1995-1999

Physical Description: 14 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by correspondence date.

Scope and Content Note

Sampled correspondence includes communication between Dick Ackerman and his fellow legislators, some constituents, and agencies and organizations affected by specific legislation during his time in the State Legislature.

Physical Description: 1 file folder
Arrangement
Arranged chronologically by date of publication.

Scope and Content Note
Press files include articles written by Ackerman, along with articles written about Ackerman. Articles are derived from scholarly publications, professional journals, and newspaper articles. The scope of the articles pertains to Ackerman's political interests, including public safety, government reform, and economic recovery.

Series 5 Proposition 208 Files 1996-1997

Physical Description: 4 file folders
Arrangement
Proposition 208 files are organized in two separate arrangements: the first group is arranged chronologically by date of correspondence, the second group is arranged numerically by filing number.

Scope and Content Note
The Proposition 208 files include correspondence between the Fair Political Practices Commission, Dick Ackerman, and various constituents. The correspondence includes questions and answers regarding legal aspects and capabilities of Prop 208, which limits the amount of contributions that could be made by a donor.