Guide to the William P. (Bill) Baker Papers

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Guide to the William P. (Bill) Baker Papers

Collection number: LP447

California State Archives
Office of the Secretary of State
Sacramento, California

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Descriptive Summary

Title: William Baker Papers
Dates: 1981-1992
Collection number: LP447
Creator: William Baker, California Legislator
Collection Size: 4 cubic feet
Repository: California State Archives
Sacramento, California


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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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], William P. Baker, LP447:[folder number], California State Archives, Office of the Secretary of State, Sacramento, California.

Acquisition and Custodial History
The California State Archives acquired the William Baker Papers following his final term in the State Legislature.

Biography
William Pond Baker, Republican, was elected in 1980 to the 10th Assembly District, which included the central and eastern portions of Contra Costa County and some of Alameda County. The area was predominantly a mix of heavy industry, agriculture, recreational areas, and small businesses. The water quality in the Delta is of prime concern to the district. He was reelected in 1982, after reapportionment, in the newly-drawn 15th Assembly District. In 1992 Baker was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, serving California's 10th Congressional District.

Baker was a member of the Contra Costa Farm Bureau and has served as a departmental chairman of the United Crusade. Baker spent five years as Executive Vice President of the Contra Costa Taxpayers Association. He also originated and authored, for two years, a weekly newspaper column, "The Angry Taxpayer."
Baker was born in Oakland, California, on June 14, 1940. He attended San Jose State University and graduated in 1963 with a major in Business and Industrial Management and a minor in Political Science. He did graduate study at Long Beach State College in the field of International Marketing Research. After completing eight years reserve in the U.S. Coast Guard, including six months active duty, Baker was honorably discharged in 1965.

During his term in the California Legislature, Baker served on the following committees according to the California Legislature at Sacramento (Handbooks) and the California Blue Book:

**Standing Committees**
- Criminal Law and Public Safety, 1983-1984
- Criminal Justice, 1981-1982
- Vice-Chairman, 1981-1982
- Governmental Organization, 1987-1988
- Vice-Chairman, 1985-1989
- Public Investments, Finance, and Bonded Indebtedness, 1985
- Transportation, 1989-1992

**Joint Committees**
- Joint Budget, 1985-1989

**Subcommittees**
- Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation, 1985-1987
- Subcommittee on Public Employees and Bonded Indebtedness, 1989

**Boards and Commissions**
- Commission on State Finance, 1985-1989

**Scope and Content**

The bulk of the Bill Files series consist of several important pieces of legislation regarding law enforcement, prisons, and adult and juvenile inmates. Researchers can also find legislation regarding the improvement and maintenance of environmental protection, high water quality, and air quality.

**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.

Baker, William P., 1940-
California. Legislature. Assembly
Benicia-Martinez Bridge (Benicia and Martinez, Calif.)
Physical Description: 82 file folders

Arrangement

Bill files are arranged chronologically by legislative session and numerically by bill number.

Scope and Content Note

Bill Files were created by William P. Baker while he served as a state assembly member from 1981-1992. The files may include bill analyses, amendments and resolutions, author’s statements, testimony, press releases, newspaper clippings, correspondence, and committee statements that pertain to law enforcement, crime, environmental protection, Medi-Cal, child care, and other state and local matters.


Legislation in local matters such as the Benicia-Martinez toll bridges (AB3838, 1985-1986; AB780, 1991-1992), and Alameda flood control (AB978, 1983-1984) were also submitted by Baker.


1985-1986 AB3-AB3416, AJR21, AJR92 (15ff) LP447:68-82