Inventory of the Rebecca Cohn Papers

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Inventory of the Rebecca Cohn Papers

Collection number: LP472

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

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Rebecca Cohn Papers
Dates: 2001-2006
Collection number: LP472
Creator: Rebecca Cohn, California Legislator
Collection Size: 7.75 cubic feet
Repository: California State Archives
Sacramento, California

Abstract: Rebecca Cohn was a member of the State Assembly from 2001-2006. The Rebecca Cohn Papers consist of four series: Administrative Files, 2001 to 2004, Bill Files, 2001-2006, Subject Files, 1998-2006, and Hearing Files, 2000-2004. The records document her legislative activity during her term as a member of the California State Legislature.

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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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Rebecca Cohn papers, LP472:[folder number], California State Archives, Office of the Secretary of State, Sacramento, California.

Acquisition and Custodial History
California State Archives acquired the Rebecca Cohn papers, in a single transfer (Accession Number 2006-286), in 2006.

Biography
Rebecca Cohn, a Democrat, served as a State Assembly Member from 2001 to 2006. She represented the 24th District, which included the cities of Campbell, Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Gatos, Monte Soreno, San Jose, Saratoga and Sunnyvale within Santa Clara County. After redistricting in 2002, her 24th District consisted of the cities of Campbell, San Jose, Santa Clara and Saratoga within Santa Clara County.

Cohn was born on March 30th, 1954 in Vallejo, California. Shortly after her birth, her family moved to Texas, where she attended University of Texas at Austin and University of Texas in Galveston and received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1976. After graduation, she practiced as a licensed physical therapist for twenty years before becoming a Management Consultant for Business Design Associates in Alameda, where she stayed for nearly ten years before being elected to the Assembly. Together, she and her husband, Ron, have one son named Andrew.
Prior to her service in the Assembly, Cohn had been a legislative appointee to the California Industrial Medical Council, a former member and chair of the American Physical Therapy Association’s Advisory Panel on Women, and a participant on the Diversity Task Force of Joint Venture Silicon Valley.

Rebecca Cohn was elected to the State Assembly in 2000 and served as the Assistant Minority Floor Leader from 2005 to 2006.

1954 Born in Vallejo
2000 Elected to California State Assembly
2001 Began term in the State Assembly representing the 24th District
2001-2002 Chair of Standing Committee on Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism, and Internet Media
2001-2006 Chair of Select Committee on Domestic Violence
2001-2002 Chair of Select Committee on the Future of Health Care in California
2001-2002 Chair of Select Committee on Transportation Congestion Relief
2003-2004 Chair of Standing Committee on Health
2003-2004 Chair of Select Committee on Broadband
2003-2004 Chair of Standing Committee on Future of California’s Information and Advanced Technology Infrastructure
2001-2002 Chair of Select Committee on the Future of California’s Health
2006 Ended service in the State Assembly

Scope and Content
The Rebecca Cohn papers consist of five records series: Administrative Files, 2001 to 2004, Bill Files, 2001-2006, Subject Files, 1998-2006, and Hearing Files, 2000-2004. The records document her legislative activity during her term as a member of the California State Legislature. The bills introduced by Cohn include a wide array of subjects, with a focus on domestic violence. Cohn was particularly concerned with victims of domestic violence, authoring bills that allowed victims of sexual felonies to testify only once in cases that crossed county lines and which enhanced penalties for abusers if children were present. Cohn was also active in early efforts to combat online piracy, and encouraged police and firefighters to live in their communities by offering incentives to landlords who leased to them.

Accruals
No further accruals are expected.

Related Material at the California State Archives
Assembly Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism and Internet Media Committee Records
Assembly Health Committee Records

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Cohn, Rebecca
California Commission on the Status of Women
Housing development-California
Assembly Committee on Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism, and Internet Media
Family Violence

LP472:1-3 Series 1 Administrative Files 2001-2004
Physical Description: 3 file folders
Arrangement
Arranged chronologically by date.
Scope and Content Note
Administrative files created by Rebecca Cohn consist of records relevant to her work as an Assembly Member. They include Legislative overviews of pending legislation, and thank you notes addressed to Cohn for supporting certain pieces of legislation.
2001-2002: Legislative Papers LP472:1
**Series 2** Bill Files 2001-2006

**Physical Description:** 74 file folders

**Arrangement**
Arranged chronologically by legislative session, then numerically by bill number.

**Access Information**
Certain records in file folders LP427:14, LP427:15, LP427:127 and LP427:159 are restricted under the California Public Records Act (Government Code 6254(c)).

**Scope and Content Note**
Bill files created by Rebecca Cohn may include bill analyses, amendments, resolutions, author statements, testimonies, press releases, editorials and newspaper clippings, correspondence, committee statements, and other information. Of particular interest are those bills relating to domestic violence (AB469 and AB1909, 2001-2002; AB134, AB141, AB143, AB383 and AB1813, 2003-2004; and AB59 and AB2051, 2005-2006), healthcare (AB215, AB829 and AB2179, 2001-2002) and piracy (AB1277, 2005-2006).

- 2001-2002: AB160-AB2781; ACR3-ACR11; HR5 (21ff) LP472:4-24
- 2003-2004: AB6-AB2828; ACR2-ACR225 (36ff) LP472:25-60
- 2005-2006: AB59-AB1300; AJR3 (17ff) LP472: 61-77

See Appendix A for LP numbers

**Series 3** Subject Files 1998-2006

**Physical Description:** 75 file folders, 15 videocassettes (VHS)

**Arrangement**
Arranged alphabetically by subject title.

**Access Information**
Access to audiovisual material requires the production of use copies.

**Scope and Content Note**
The subject files created by Rebecca Cohn reflect various projects, interests and appearances by Cohn during her tenure in the State Assembly. Subject files may contain reports, newspaper articles, program proposals, meeting notes, news stories, ads, and video recordings of various programs and information. Cohn’s subject files focus on various topics and issues considered by the Assembly Committees she chaired, or of which she was a member. The subject files also reflect Cohn's special interests such as domestic violence, the state budget, and the energy crisis of 2001.

Additional Series Information
Appendix A: List of Subject Files

See Appendix B for LP numbers

**Series 4** Hearing Files 2000-2004

**Physical Description:** 13 videocassettes (VHS)

**Arrangement**
Arranged chronologically by date of hearing.

**Access Information**
Access to audiovisual material requires the production of use copies.

**Scope and Content Note**
Hearing files contain video and audio recordings of regular session hearings and floor sessions of the Assembly. A significant number of video recordings are floor sessions. The remaining are largely committee hearings on a variety of topics. Of note is the May 8, 2003 hearing of the Assembly Select Committee on Domestic Violence, regarding the possibility of providing habeas relief to women in prison (LP472:173-174).

Additional Series Information
Appendix B: List of Hearing Files