Inventory of the Leon D. Ralph Papers

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See series description
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Collection number: See series description

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Office of the Secretary of State
Sacramento, California

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  Archives staff and Rebecca Wendt
Date Completed:
  2001
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Leon D. Ralph papers,
Date (inclusive): 1967-1976
Collection number: See series description
Creator: Ralph, Leon D.
Extent: 5 cubic feet
Repository: California State Archives
Sacramento, California
Abstract: Leon Douglas Ralph, Democrat, was a State Assembly Member, 1966-1976. His main area of interest was issues affecting minorities, particularly affirmative action.
Physical location: California State Archives
Language: English.
Access
Collection is open for research.
Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Leon D. Ralph Papers, LP[number]:[folder number], California State Archives, Office of the Secretary of State, Sacramento, California.
 Acquisition Information
The California State Archives acquired the Leon D. Ralph Papers following his final Assembly term.
Alternative Forms of Material Available
Some of the records are available on microfilm at the California State Archives.

**Biography**

Leon Douglas Ralph, Democrat, was a State Assembly Member, 1966-1976. His 55th Assembly District included cities within Los Angeles County. Following redistricting, he represented the 48th Assembly District.

He was born on August 20, 1932 in Richmond, Virginia and established residence in California in 1956. He attended the University of Colorado and received an A.A. degree from Los Angeles Valley College and a B.A. degree in Political Science from Windsor University in Ontario, Canada. He later attended Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena. Ralph served in the United States Air Force during the Korean Conflict, 1950-1954 and then worked as a logistical analyst for Douglas Aircraft, 1956-1963. With Martha Anna Morgan whom he married on September 27, 1951 he had three children: Martha, Ruth, and Leon, Jr. His 1972 marriage to Pamela Joynes (which ended in divorce in 1989) produced two children: Tyrone and Tiffany. In 1990 he married Ruth Gonzales Banda who had two children of her own: Maya Gonzales Banda & Vicente Ramon Banda.

Assembly Member Ralph's community and civic affiliations included such organizations and positions as Los Angeles County Democratic Committee member; Watts Branch NAACP member; Broadway-Manchester Chamber of Commerce member; Chair of the County of Los Angeles Conference of Black Elected Officials; and Democratic National Committee member from California.

Leon Ralph began his political career as an administrative assistant to Speaker of the Assembly Jesse Unruh. He was elected to the State Assembly in 1966 and served until 1976 when he resigned to become a minister. During his term in the Legislature he was a member of the Black Legislative Caucus. In 1988 he made an unsuccessful campaign to return to the Assembly. According to the California Legislature at Sacramento (Handbooks), he served on the following committees:

**Biography/Organization History**

*Standing Committees*

Commerce and Public Utilities, 1969-1974
Elections and Reapportionment, 1967-1973
Unemployment Disability Insurance (Subcommittee), 1975-1976
Finance and Insurance, 1972-1974
Governmental Organization, 1967-1976
*Chair, 1971-1974
Health, 1975
Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (Subcommittee), 1975
Rules, 1975-1976
*Chair, 1975-1976
Social Welfare, 1967
*Vice Chair, 1967
Urban Affairs and Housing, 1969
Urban Development and Housing, 1971-1972
Ways and Means, 1967-1970

*Joint Committees*

Educational Goals and Evaluation, 1975
Rules, 1975-1976
Select Committees
Prison Reform and Rehabilitation, 1972-1974

*Other Service*

Employment Service Board, 1974

**Scope and Content**

The Leon D. Ralph Papers consist of Assembly Bill Files, 1967-1976 and Committee Files, 1968-1974. The bill files document Ralph's legislative activity during his time as a member of the California State Legislature. Bills introduced by Assembly Member Ralph cover a wide array of subjects. His main area of interest was issues affecting minorities, particularly affirmative action. Committee files document committee activities and include background information on proposed legislation.
Arrangement
Arranged into two series: bill files and committee files.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been associated with these materials in the Archives' automated public access system (currently in development, June 2004).

Subjects
Ralph, Leon D.
California - - Legislature - - Assembly
Educational - - law and legislation
Affirmative action programs - - Law and legislation

Related Material
Leon D. Ralph, Oral History Interview, conducted 1990 by Arlene Lazarowitz, Oral History Program, California State University, Fullerton for the California State Government Oral History Program.


Physical Description: 70 file folders

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

Scope and Content Note
Bill files created by Assembly Member Ralph may include bill analyses, amendments and resolutions, correspondence, position statements, author’s statements, press releases, newspaper clippings, background studies, and reports. Microfilm copies of bill files are available for the years 1967-1976 as indicated by (mf) following the LP number.

1967 AB16-AB2456, HR33, ACRs (11ff) LP119:95-101; LP120:1-4 (mf)
1968 AB1-AB1666, HR312-HR577, RCR16-RCR473 (6ff) LP120:5-10 (mf)
1969 AB294-AB2118, ACR86, ABs misc., AJR49, HRs, RCRs (8ff) LP120:17-24 (mf)
1970 AB692-AB1892, AJR1, ACRs (7ff) LP120:34-40 (mf)
1971 AB217-AB3020, ACA39, ACA64, ACR16, ACR151 (9ff) LP121:8-16 (mf)
1972 AB182-AB2356, ACA14, ACA45 (6ff) LP121:17-22 (mf)
1973-1974 AB175-AB4411, ACA18, ACR18, HRs. (7ff) LP121:23-29 (mf)
1975-1976 AB24-AB4482, ACRas, ACRs, AJRs, HRs, JRCRs, Legislation not introduced. (16ff) LP146:23-38 (mf)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series 2. Committee Files, 1968-1974</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Physical Description:</strong> 42 files folder</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Arrangement</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Arranged chronologically and by legislative session, then alphabetically by subject.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scope and Content Note</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee files created by Assembly Member Ralph may contain press releases, background information for proposed legislation, and committee activity information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968: Press releases, correspondence (3ff) LP120:11-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>1968: Other authors legislation (2ff) LP120:14-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>1968: Gun Control (1ff) LP120:16</td>
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<tr>
<td>1969: Other author's legislation, press releases, correspondence, and apprenticeship (9ff) LP120:25-33</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970: Apprenticeship, Black Legislative Caucus, other author's legislation, Budget, Ways &amp; Means (5ff) LP120:41-45</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970: Sub Committee, Ways &amp; Means (6ff) LP121:1-6</td>
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<td>1970: Bill Record (1ff) LP121:7</td>
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<tr>
<td>1973-1974: Attorney General's Advisory Commission on Community-Police Relations (1ff) LP121:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>1973-1974: Employment Services Board (1ff) LP121:31</td>
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<tr>
<td>1973-1974: Joint Commission on Education Goals and Evaluations (1ff) LP121:32</td>
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<tr>
<td>1971-1974: Correspondence: Government Organization Committee (3ff) LP121:33-35</td>
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<tr>
<td>1972-1974: Lottery Background Data and Dog Racing (9ff) LP121:36-4</td>
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