Inventory of the California State Senate Industrial Relations Records

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Inventory of the California State Senate Industrial Relations Committee Records

Collection number: See series description

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Office of the Secretary of State
Sacramento, California

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Descriptive Summary
Title: California State Senate Industrial Relations Committee Records,
Date (inclusive): 1972-2000
Collection number: See series description
Creator: California State Senate Industrial Relations Committee
Extent: 31 cubic feet.
Repository: California State Archives
Sacramento, California
Abstract: The Senate Industrial Relations Committee Records reflect the activity of the committee in overseeing legislation and other matters affecting the California Labor Code.
Physical location: California State Archives
Language: English.
Access
Collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], California State Senate Industrial Relations Committee Records, LP[number]:[folder number], California State Archives, Office of the Secretary of State, Sacramento, California.

Acquisition Information
The Archives acquired the Senate Industrial Relations Committee Records as required by state law.

Alternative Forms of Material Available
Some of these papers are available on microfilm at the California State Archives.

Processing Information
The Senate Industrial Relations Committee considered many bills that drew significant public interest because of their focus on labor relations, industry and the environment, and employee safety. During the 1970s, the committee saw several bills on discrimination in the workplace. These bills were supported by labor unions and aimed to protect every worker from discrimination based on race, gender, or sexual orientation (SB16, 1980).

Since its inception, the committee has spent a large percentage of time dealing with the issues of workers' compensation and the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration, (Cal-OSHA), particularly in 1987 when Governor Deukmajian attempted to shift from the California occupational safety and health standards to that of the Federal government. The other topic that drew considerable committee interest was welfare policy. In 1985, AB2580 created the Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Program, also known as workfare. This mandatory program was designed to reduce dependence on public assistance by providing education and job training to every adult recipient of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). After AB2580 was chaptered, the Joint Oversight Committee on GAIN Implementation was created in 1986 to deal specifically with this issue. Senator Bill Greene (Dem.), Chairman of the Industrial Relations Committee from 1978-1992 and an author of the GAIN legislation, served on this Joint Committee.

Scope and Content

The Senate Industrial Relations Committee Records consist of 31 cubic feet of records reflecting the activity of the committee in overseeing legislation and other matters affecting the California Labor Code. The records cover the years, 1972-2000, with the bulk from 1975-2000. They are comprised of bill files, hearing files, Cal-OSHA files, and welfare files. Although the Industrial Relations Committee began in 1970, records from 1970-1971 are entirely lacking in the Archives holdings. Similarly, the Archives did not receive bill files from the 1995-1996 Legislative session or Assembly Bill files from the 1997-1998 session. It is anticipated that the Archives will receive further records from the Senate Labor and Industrial Relations Committee. Researchers should ask a reference archivist about recently received, unprocessed records of the committee.

The majority of files pertain to employee safety in almost every California industry from agriculture to motion pictures. Workers' compensation and California's occupational safety and health (Cal-OSHA) program are the subject of most of the collection. In 1975, the Governor's Reorganization Plan Number 2 proposed the consolidation of the Department of Industrial Relations' Divisions of Industrial Welfare and of Labor Law Enforcement into a new Division of Labor Standards Enforcement. The Senate Industrial Relations Committee attended hearings on this topic and retained background information, statements and testimony regarding these changes. Likewise, when the Governor's Reorganization Plan Number 1 of 1977 and 1978 proposed to move the Cal-OSHA program from the Department of Health and Human Services to the Department of Industrial Relations, the committee's close association with the Department of Industrial Relations thrust it into this debate. Governor Deukmajian's attempt to eliminate California's occupational safety and health program and standards in 1987 in exchange for the federal standards resulted is a series of Cal-OSHA subject files from 1975 through 1989.
The committee also complied a series of welfare files beginning in 1985 when the controversial workfare legislation, Greater Avenues of Independence (GAIN) Program (AB2580) was introduced into the Legislature. Once AB2580 was chaptered the committee accumulated a variety of documents concerning its implementation including correspondence and county reports and some of its papers are included in the Industrial Relations Committee's welfare files. Other major issues covered are unemployment, wages, and the impact of industry on the environment. In 1975, the committee held three hearings on the implementation and operations of the Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975, and the Archives has files on this topic.

**Arrangement**

The Senate Industrial Relations Committee Records are arranged into four series: bill files, hearing files, Cal-OSHA files, and welfare 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**

Worker's Compensation--Law and legislation--California  
California. Legislature. Senate. Committee on Industrial Relations  
California. Labor Code  
Welfare--Law and legislation--California  
Cal-OSHA--California  
Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Program--California

**Related Material**

Patrick Johnston Papers  
George Zenovich Papers  
Alan Short Papers  
Bill Greene Papers  
Hilda Solis Papers  
Assembly Industrial Relations Committee Records  
Assembly Labor and Employment Committee Records  
Department of Industrial Relations Records

**Oral histories of Committee members**

Patrick Johnston, oral history interview conducted by Laura McCreery, 1988, Regional Oral History Office, University of California, Berkeley, for the California State Archives State Government Oral History Program.

Physical Description: 380 file folders

Arrangement
Arranged chronologically by legislative session then numerically and alphabetically by bill number.

Scope and Content Note
Bills relating to labor including employee safety, training, wages, and insurance are generally referred to the Senate Industrial Relations Committee for analysis. Most bill files include all or some of the following items: bill analyses, amendments and resolutions, author's statements, testimony, press releases, newspaper clippings, correspondence, roll calls, records of votes, and committee statements. For the years prior to 1977, some of the committee analyses, roll calls, and records of votes were removed from bill files and filed under the title Committee Papers. The committee saw numerous bills concerning worker's compensation, Cal-OSHA, and Unemployment Insurance, which all generated impassioned constituent correspondence. Other bill files cover a variety of subjects including the Fair Employment Practices Act of 1978 (AB1919), public employees/domestic partner health benefits (AB107, 1999-2000), amusement park safety (SB973 and AB850, 1999-2000), and sweatshops (SB460 and AB633, 1999-2000).

Bill Files from the 1970, 1971 and 1995-1996 Legislative Sessions and Assembly Bill Files from the 1997-1998 Legislative Session were not transferred to the California State Archives. Microfilm copies of bill files are available for the years 1972-1992 where indicated with MF before the LP number.

Senate Industrial Relations Committee, 1972-2000

1972: Committee Papers (2ff) LP112:9 LP163:218
1972: SB290-SB1499; SCA20; SCR56 (5ff) MF LP112:10-14
1972: AB78-AB2388; ACR100 (9ff) MF LP112:15-23
1973-1974: Committee Papers (1ff) LP163:219
1975-1976: Committee Papers (1ff) LP163:234
1975-1976: Governor's Reorganization Plan No. 2, Committee Correspondence (2ff) LP170:270-271
1975-1976: SB20-SB2203; SCA43; SR18; SB1XXX (11ff) MF LP170:243-252
1975-1976: AB91-AB4506; ACR209; AJR6 (17ff) MF LP170:253-269
1977-1978: SB19-SB2207; SCR32-SCR75; SR18; SR19 (9ff) MF LP199:49-57
1977-1978: AB28-AB3747; ACR96; ACR148 (19ff) MF LP199:58-76
1979-1980: Preprint SB1; SB3-SB2026 (10ff) MF LP199:78-87
1979-1980: AB28-AB3361; ACA47; ACR44; ACR108 (13ff) MF LP199:88-100
1981-1982: SB24-SB2033; SCA35; SCR72 (12ff) MF LP227:60-71
1981-1982: AB12-AB3494; ACR16; ACR102 (12ff) MF LP227:72-83
1983-1984: SB1-SB2331; SB7X; SB8X (15ff) MF LP228:17-31
1983-1984: AB1921-AB4000; ACR47; ACR144 (7ff) MF LP255:202-208
1985-1986: AB7-AB4307; AJR94 (21ff) MF LP273:197-217
1987-1988: SB2311-SB2872; SCR40; SJR6; SJR31 (2ff) MF LP203:281-282
1989-1990: SB47-SB2850; SCA8; SJR58; SB15X (14ff) MF LP230:298-311
1989-1990: AB28-AB4315; ACR73; AJR9; AJR69 (18ff) MF LP230:312-329
1991-1992: AB15-AB3810; ACR95; AB51X; AB52X (11ff) MF LP230:335-345
1993-1994: SB4-SB2031; SCA26; SR20; SB34X (14ff) LP341:1-14
1993-1994: AB110-AB3831; ACR25; ACR90; AB4X (15ff) LP341:15-29
1997-1998: SB46-SB966; SCR93 (22ff) LP341:30-51
1999-2000: SB16-SB2081; SR32 (17ff) LP341:52-68
See Appendix A for LP Numbers

Series 2. **Hearing Files, 1975-1991**

Physical Description: 111 file folders

Arrangement
Arranged chronologically by date of hearing.

Scope and Content Note
Hearing files may contain agendas, audiocassette tape recordings of hearings, transcripts, testimony, background reports, and working files for regular session hearings, interim hearings, and some joint hearings. Audiocassette tapes have been moved to a cold-storage vault for preservation purposes and separation sheets are in the appropriate files to alert the researcher to the existence of such tapes.

When complete, hearings files can provide in-depth analysis of issues of concern to the committee and California's labor issues. The committee often held joint hearings with the Assembly Labor and Employment Committee. These hearings largely focused on the future of Cal-OSHA during the Deukmajian/Reagan administrations and compared California's occupational safety and health standards with federal standards.

For a list of hearing dates and topics, see Appendix A in master finding aid at the California State Archives.

See Appendix B for LP Numbers

Series 3. **Cal-OSHA Files, 1977-1989**

Physical Description: 27 file folders

Arrangement
Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Scope and Content Note
Cal-OSHA files contain studies, correspondence with state agencies and interest groups, press clippings, and reports that concern the occupational safety and health section of workers' compensation. Some files focus on the Governor's Reorganization Plan Number 1 of 1977 and 1978, which proposed to move the Cal-OSHA program from the Department of Health and Human Services to the Department of Industrial Relations. Then, in 1987, Governor Deukmajian cut all appropriations to the Department of Industrial Relations for the Cal-OSHA program. This decision placed California's private business sector under the jurisdiction of the Federal occupational safety and health standards, which were not as stringent as California's standards. At this time, the Industrial Relations committee reviewed and intensely compared Cal-OSHA to the Federal OSHA program. The resulting files discuss in detail the safety standards for many specific work conditions including cranes, ladders, and boiler and pressure valve safety. Among other parties, John F. Henning and the California Labor Federation (AFL-CIO) sued Governor Deukmajian for his Cal-OSHA policy in 1987 and a file regarding the Supreme Court case is included in the series.

For a list of Cal-OSHA headings, see Appendix B in master finding aid at the California State Archives.
See Appendix C for LP Numbers


Physical Description: 60 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Scope and Content Note

The Senate Industrial Relations Committee compiled files concerning welfare reform because of the introduction of AB2580 in 1985. A major piece of legislation, AB2580, proposed a shift from the established state welfare system to a new workfare system named the Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) program. This legislation is California's prototype of the federal Family Assistance Act (JOBS) program. The mandatory program aimed to reduce public assistance by providing job training and education to recipients of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program. The most distinctive feature of this bill is its bipartisan support and authorship in the Legislature including Senator Bill Greene (Dem.) Chairman of the Industrial Relations committee. The series includes files on other proposed welfare legislation of 1985 such as the Step-Up Program (SB863), the Public Assistance Independence Act (SB96), and the Employment Preparation Program (SB15). Also included are files on related legislation concerning education and training and childcare programs such as the School-Age Community Child Care Service "Latchkey Program" (SB303) and the Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) Program (AB1308) both of 1985. After AB2580 was chaptered on September 26, 1985 the subsequent implementation of the program created a multitude of problems and necessitated the creation of the Joint Oversight Committee on GAIN Implementation. The Joint Committee focused on County Plan Guidelines and gathered data and feedback from each County regarding the program. Los Angeles County is highlighted because it questionably contracted out all case management services with Maximus, Inc., a private company. Newspaper clippings that were either sent to the committee or retained by the committee provide a public perspective on the GAIN Program and its turbulent history from 1984 to 1988.

For a list of Welfare headings, see Appendix C in master finding aid at the California State Archives.