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## **Inventory of the California State Senate Transportation and Housing Committee Records**

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## Inventory of the California State Senate Transportation and Housing Committee Records

### Collection numbers: LP426

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

Processed by:

Sarah Starke

Date Completed:

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Encoded by:

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### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** California State Senate Transportation and Housing Committee Records

**Dates:** 2005-2008

**Collection number:** LP426

**Creator:** State Senate Transportation and Housing Committee Records

**Collection Size:** 12.5 cubic feet

**Repository:** California State Archives

Sacramento, California

**Abstract:** The Senate Transportation and Housing Committee records consist of 12.5 cubic feet of textual and audiovisual records organized into the following record series: Bill Files covering legislative sessions between 2005-2008; Hearing Files from 2005-2008; Chronological Correspondence from 2005-2008; and Committee Bill Logs from 2005. The records reflect the activity of the committee in overseeing legislation and other matters affecting transportation, housing and community development issues.

**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.

### Publication Rights

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### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Senate Transportation Committee Records, LP426: [folder number], California State Archives, Office of the Secretary of State, Sacramento, California.

### Acquisition History

The California State Archives acquired the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee Records according to state law.

### Committee History

The Senate Transportation and Housing Committee is the most recent Senate committee to oversee legislation regarding the ownership and operation of transportation vessels, state transportation agencies and organizations, general transportation matters at both state and local levels and legislation regarding housing and community development in California.

The first committee to consider bills relating to transportation was the Senate Transportation Committee. Developed in 1949 by Senate Resolution 3, the Senate Transportation Committee was created to investigate "bills amending the a) Vehicle Code, b) Streets and Highway Code, c) Harbors and Navigation Code, and d) Uncodified legislation relating to the

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same subjects or to aviation." In 1975 the committee changed its scope to consider "bills relating to the operation, safety, equipment, transfer of ownership, licensing, and registration of vehicles, aircraft, and vessels," "bills relating to the Department of Transportation and the Department of Motor Vehicles," and "bills relating to waterways, harbors, highways, public transportation systems, and airports."

The first committee that had housing matters under its purview was the Senate Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, created by Senate Resolution 11 in January 1983 to consider "bills related to housing, community development, codes and standards, fair housing, foreclosure, housing finances, manufactured housing, housing element, and the Subdivision Map Act." In 1995, Senate Resolution 8 changed the committee's name to the Senate Housing and Land Use Committee and its scope broadened to consider "bills relating to housing and land use." Finally, in December 1999 the Senate created the Senate Housing and Community Development Committee with Senate Resolution 4, which changed the scope of the committee to consider "bills relating to housing and community development."

In December 2004, the Senate passed Senate Resolution 4, which combined the Transportation and Housing committees to form the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee. The committee was created to investigate "bills relating to the operation, safety, equipment, transfer of ownership, licensing and registration of vehicles, aircraft and vessels," "bills relating to the Division of Highways and the Department of Motor Vehicles," "bills relating to waterways, harbors, highways, public transportation systems, and airports" and "bills relating to housing and community redevelopment."

The Senate Transportation and Housing Committee consisted of 14 members. The chairs of the committee were:

Tom Torlakson (Dem.) in 2005

Alan Lowenthal (Dem.) from 2006-2008

### **Scope and Content**

The Senate Transportation and Housing Committee records consist of 12.5 cubic feet of textual and audiovisual records organized into the following record series: Bill Files covering legislative sessions between 2005-2008; Hearing Files from 2005-2008; Chronological Correspondence from 2005-2008; and Committee Bill Logs from 2005. The records reflect the activity of the committee in overseeing legislation and other matters affecting transportation, housing and community development issues.

The bill files document the legislation directed to the committee. The files include committee analysis, letters from interested parties, and the comments of affected agencies. These files show the close involvement of the committee in such issues as the Federal "Real ID Act" HR 1286 (SB60, 2005-2006), seismic retrofitting (SB172, 2005-2006), the Military Personnel Privacy Protection Act of 2006, Donate Life (SB681, 2005-2006), abandoned vehicle abatement (SB1225, 2005-2006), renewable fuel regulations (SB1511, 2005-2006), special license plates (AB84, 2005-2006), smog check reform, mobilehome park conversion (SB900, 2007-2008), The Swimming Pool and Spa Safety Act of 2006 (AB382, 2007-2008), and others.

The Senate Transportation and Housing Committee considered bills that generated a substantial community response. The committee played an important role in creating neighborhood electric vehicle plans in Northern California (SB956, 2007-2008); establishing a recycled material tracking system for Caltrans (SB735, 2007-2008); protecting workers by increasing the fines and penalties associated with double-fine zones (SB254, 2005-2006); regulating traffic violator schools (AB107, 2005-2006); and protecting California consumers from purchasing flood damaged cars salvaged from post-Katrina Louisiana (AB 1854, 2005-2006). The bill files also reflect the committee's close involvement with various interest groups and agencies such as the California Chamber of Commerce, the League of California Cities, California Association of Realtors, Western Center on Law and Poverty, California Gray Panthers, Retail Industry Leaders Association, the Sierra Club, California Motor Car Dealers Association, and others.

The committee conducted hearings, special hearings, and interim hearings on issues such as migratory fish passage, hot rod lifting, the Federal Real ID Act, the Governor's budget, housing opportunity plans, earthquake safety and other various legislative bills. These hearings, their agendas, committee notes, roll call votes, bill amendments, action reports and related information are included in the hearing files. Chronological Correspondence include general correspondence organized by year regarding job applications, hearings, meetings, correspondence to Governor Schwarzenegger urging his signature on specific legislation, and letters to Congress. Committee Bill Logs include specific information on bills heard by the committee in 2005.

Together, these records reflect the committee's attempt to balance the varied and sometimes conflicting demands of California's citizens for responsible and affordable transportation and housing, safe and secure communities, public safety issues, and environmental protection.

### **Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

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California. Legislature. Senate. Committee on Transportation and Housing  
California. Legislature. Senate. Committee on Transportation  
California. Dept. of Housing and Community Development

**Related Collections at the California State Archives**

Assembly Transportation Committee Records, 1954-2006  
Assembly Interim Transportation and Commerce Committee, 1945-1969  
Assembly Transportation and Commerce Committee, 1945-1969  
Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee Records, 1975-1984  
Assembly Urban Development and Housing Committee Records, 1968-1974  
Senate Transportation Committee, 1948-2004  
Senate Housing and Land Use Committee Records, 1977-1998  
Senate Housing and Community Development Committee, 1999-2004

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LP426:1-192

Series 1 **Bill Files 2005-2008**

**Physical Description:** 192 file folders, 4 DVDs

**Access Information**

Access to audiovisual material requires the production of use copies.

**Arrangement**

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

**Scope and Content Note**

Bill Files created by the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee may include bill analyses, amendments and resolutions, author's statements, testimony, press releases, editorials and newspaper clippings, correspondence, committee statements, and other information. Some of the most important bills were AB3034 (2007-2008, high speed rail), AB1542 (2007-2008, mobilehome park conversions), AB830 (2007-2008, digital conversions of billboards), SB1511 (2005-2006, renewable fuel regulations), AB578 (2005-2006, smog check reform), SB670 (2007-2008, real property transfer fees), and AB2794 (2005-2006, auto broker fee disclosure). DVDs and CDs included in the Bill Files have been moved to a cold-storage vault for preservation purposes and separation sheets are included in the file folders to alert the researcher to the existence of the tapes.

The Bill Files also show the committee's close involvement with state and local agencies and interest groups such as Coalition for Clean Air, American Civil Liberties Union, California State Association of Counties, California Teamsters Public Affairs Council, California Building Industry Association, Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association, California Trade Coalition, California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, Jericho, and American Planning Association.

2005-2006: SB3-SB1841, SCA87, SCR5-SCR130, SJR1-38, SR8 (43 ff) LP426:1-43

2005-2006: AB84-AB3042, ACR5-ACR157, AJR16-AJR47 (52 ff) LP426:44-95

2007-2008: SB2-SB1731, SCR3-SCR120 (44 ff) LP426:96-139

2007-2008: AB15-AB3064, ACR4-ACR144, AJR21-AJR53 (53 ff) LP426:140-192

See Appendix A  
for LP numbers

**Series 2 Hearing Files 2005-2008**

**Physical Description:** 83 file folders

**Arrangement**

Hearing Files are arranged chronologically by date of hearing.

**Scope and Content Note**

Hearing Files include agendas, roll call votes, bill amendments, action reports, and working files for regular session hearings, interim hearings, and joint hearings. The files contain information from hearings on earthquake safety for bridges, alternative fuels, the Governor's budget, and digital conversions of billboards, affordable housing, and more.

See Appendix A in the master finding aid at the California State Archives for a list of hearing dates and topics.

LP426:274-275-250

**Series 3 Chronological Correspondence 2005-2006**

**Physical Description:** 2 file folders

**Arrangement**

Chronological Correspondence is arranged chronologically by year.

**Scope and Content Note**

Chronological Correspondence files include data, notes, legal and business contracts, academic and organization reports and studies, constituent and agency correspondence. The files include letters regarding job applications, hearings, meetings, memorandum, letters to Governor Schwarzenegger, letters to Congress, and correspondence within the State Legislature and staff members. Correspondence topics range from transportation to housing and development issues affecting California.

LP426:276

**Series 4 Committee Bill Logs 2005**

**Physical Description:** 1 file folder

**Arrangement**

Committee Bill Logs are arranged chronologically by year.

**Scope and Content Note**

Committee Bill Logs include measures logged into the committee and reports on hearings and votes.