Inventory of the Cathie Wright Papers

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Collection number: LP339

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Office of the Secretary of State
Sacramento, California

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Cathie Wright papers,
Date (inclusive): 1981-2000
Collection number: LP339
Creator: Wright, Cathie
Extent: 25 cubic feet
Repository: California State Archives
Sacramento, California


Physical location: California State Archives
Language: English.

Access
Collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Cathie Wright papers, LP339, California State Archives, Office of the Secretary of State, Sacramento, California.

Acquisition Information
The deed of gift for the Cathie Wright Papers was received by the California State Archives in 2002.

Biographical Note
Cathie Wright, Republican, was a State Assembly Member, 1980-1991 and a State Senator, 1992-2000. She represented cities within Los Angeles and Ventura Counties in the 37th Assembly District and 19th Senate District.

Wright, neé Marianelli, was born in Old Forge, Pennsylvania on May 18, 1929. She attended Lackawanna Junior College in Scranton, Pennsylvania. In 1961 she moved to California and in 1963 married Victor O. Wright who died in 1982. They had one daughter, Victoria. Prior to her legislative career, Wright held jobs in accounting and well as in the insurance and cable industries.

Wright was elected to the Legislature after serving on the City of Simi Valley city council and then as mayor of the city. During her time in the Legislature, she ran an unsuccessful campaign against Gray Davis for the post of lieutenant governor in 1994. According to the California Legislature at Sacramento (Handbooks) and Capitol Enquiry's Pocket Directory of the California Legislature, Wright served on the following legislative committees:

**Standing Committees**
- Aging and Long Term Care, 1983-1984
- Agriculture, 1983-1984; 1986
- Banking, Finance and Bonded Indebtedness, 1991-1992
- Constitutional Amendments, 1982
- Criminal Justice, 1981-1982
- * Vice Chair, 1981-1982
- Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials, 1985-1992
- Finance and Insurance, 1983-1990
- Intergovernmental Relations, 1985-1986
- * Chair, 1985-1986
- International Trade and Intergovernmental Relations, 1987-1988
- * Vice Chair, 1987-1989
- Ways and Means, 1989-1992
- * Vice Chair, 1991-1992

**Select Committees**
- Veterans Affairs, 1982

**Joint Committees**
- International Trade, 1990
- 1992 California Quincentennial of the Voyages of Christopher Columbus, 1990
- Rules, 1988, 1990

**Standing Committees**
- Agriculture and Water Resources, 1995-2000
- * Vice Chair, 1995-1998
- Constitutional Amendments, 1999-2000
- * Chair, 1999-2000
- Education, 1993-1994
- Environmental Quality, 1997-2000
- * Vice Chair, 1997-1998
- Health and Human Services, 1993-1994
- Judiciary, 1993-2000
- Legislative Ethics, 1996-1998
Senator Wright was termed out of office in 2000.

Scope and Contents Note

The bill files in the collection document Wright's interests in local government and in writing legislation to answer the needs raised by her constituents. These files, together with the proposed legislation files, illustrate the foundations of the legislative process. The correspondence shows Wright's position on issues and her interest in hearing from her constituents. Subject files include background information for her legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee files, though not voluminous, include some bill files and hearing information from Wright's time as Committee Chair.

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

Subjects
Wright, Cathie

**Physical Description:** 15.75 cubic feet

**Arrangement**

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

**Series Description**

Bill files created by Cathie Wright may include bill analyses, statements, amendments, correspondence, press releases, newspaper clippings, and background information. Of particular interest to researchers are those bills pertaining to local government issues. Included in the series are summaries of Wright's legislation for each session.

- 1983-1984 AB154-AB4019, ACA4-ACA34, ACR20 (21ff) LP339:14-34
- 1985-1986 AB17-AB4388, ACA13, ACR125-ACR129, AJR79 (38ff) LP339:35-72
- 1997-1998 SB529-SB2194 (15ff) LP339:244-258

Legislative summaries, 1981-2000 (1ff) LP339:278


**Physical Description:** 4.75 cubic feet

**Arrangement**

Arranged chronologically by month of letter.

**Series Description**

Chron files are made up of outgoing correspondence generated by Cathie Wright and her staff. They were sent to constituents and colleagues and frequently show Wright’s position on legislative issues. Files from 1984, 1988, and most of 1993 were not sent to the Archives.


**Physical Description:** 5.5 cubic feet

**Arrangement**

Arranged alphabetically by subject heading.

**Series Description**

Subject files include background information that was used by Cathie Wright in authoring legislation. Subject headings are those created and used by her office. A complete list of subjects is included as Appendix A of the printed finding aid available at the California State Archives.

Series 4. Assembly Intergovernmental Relations Committee Files, 1985-1986

**Physical Description:** 0.25 cubic feet

**Arrangement**

Arranged chronologically within each subseries.

**Series Description**

Cathie Wright was briefly Chair of the Assembly Intergovernmental Relations Committee and she kept some of the files when she left the position. This series includes bill files, hearing files, and correspondence of the committee.