

**S0051 Woods, Harriett F. (1927- )  
Papers, 1964-1980  
199 Folders**

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Related Collections:

S0490 Woods, Harriett F. (1927- ) Addenda, 1975-1983  
S0652 Woods, Harriett F. (1927- ), Addenda, 1945-1999  
S0755 Woods, Harriett (1927-2007), Addenda, 1952-2006  
S0799 Woods, Harriett, Video Addenda, 1986-2002

The papers of Harriett Woods, Missouri State Senator, journalist, television producer, and civic leader, were given to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection by Senator Woods over a period of years from 1977-1980.

Harriett F. Woods was elected from the 13th District of Missouri in St. Louis County to the Missouri State Senate in November, 1976, and reelected for a second term in November, 1980. Senator Woods, a Democrat, is the second women in Missouri history to be elected to this legislative body. Before her election, Senator Woods was an independent film producer and served ten years as the Public Affairs Director at KPLR-TV, St. Louis. At KPLR, she produced many noted documentaries, among them, the award winning film on child abuse, "Broken Children;" "Don't Go To Jail in Missouri;" "Piedmont UFO;" and "A St. Louis Masterpiece - The Cathedral Mosaics." She was a reporter for the Chicago Herald - American and the St. Louis Globe Democrat as well as a contributing editor of Focus - Midwest magazine. From 1967-1974 she served on the University City Council and resigned that post in 1974 to accept an appointment by Governor Christopher S. Bond to the Missouri State Transportation Commission. Her leadership in local government was recognized by her election to the Boards of Directors of the St. Louis County Municipal League, The Missouri Municipal League, and the National League of Cities.

As a senator, Woods' legislative concerns centered on urban affairs, the problems of the elderly, and education. As a freshman senator, she sponsored the Equal Rights Amendment which was defeated (22 - 12) in March, 1977. She played a prominent role in the drafting and passage of the Nursing Home Bill of 1979. Senator Woods' committee assignments reflect her major concerns: Appointment, Election, & Military, and Veterans Affairs; Budget Control; Constitutional Amendments and Reorganization; Education Committee (Vice-Chairman, 1977); Local Government; Public Health, Welfare, Consumer Protection and Environment; State Health Care Committee (Chair, 1978); Ways and Means

**SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The Harriett F. Woods Papers, document her first term as Missouri Senator (1977-1980), her

State Senatorial Campaign (1976), and writings from her career as a journalist and film producer. There is almost no information on her career as a member of the University City Council. The bulk of the material is correspondence relating to legislative issues between 1977 - 1980.

The collection consists of correspondence, pressure mail, Senate committee reports, senate bills, transcripts of committee hearings, newsletters to the Senator's constituents, television documentary scripts, including "Broken Children" and "A St. Louis Masterpiece - The Cathedral Mosaics, " published articles, campaign brochures and flyers, press releases, newspaper clippings, and photographs. The papers have been arranged into six series: Legislative files, State Senatorial Campaigns, Publications, Pre - Legislature career, Newsclippings, and Photos.

Correspondence from constituents to Senator Woods have been filed chronologically according to issue. When available, Senator Wood's response the constituent is filed immediately after. Issues receiving the most correspondence were the Equal Rights Amendment, The Nursing Home Bill, education related bills, and the Meramec Dam Referendum.

The Nursing Home Bill material, which constitutes the single largest area of the collection, includes: correspondence from constituents expressing their interest in the care of the elderly, Senator Woods' working papers of the bill, transcripts of Senate State Health Care Committee's Interim Hearing on Nursing Homes, graphic reports concerning conditions of boarding homes in Missouri, testimony of Missourians reflecting unsatisfactory experiences with nursing homes, the final version of the Nursing Home Bill, and numerous letters of congratulations to Senator Woods when the bill was passed June, 1979. Newspaper clippings from the period May, 1979 - August, 1979, relating to the Nursing Home Bill have been discarded. A list of the newspapers from which the articles were taken is attached. (see attachment A)

Correspondence from constituents requesting Senator Woods' assistance in personal matters have been discarded and a listing made of the nature of these requests. (see attachment B)

Publications included with Senator Woods' official state papers, such as annual reports from Missouri State Divisions, have been discarded

This collection is related to collections S0490 and S0652.

### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

**SERIES 1:** Legislative Files, 1977-1980. 187 folders

Arranged by subject alphabetically. Legislative issues dealt with include: abortion, blue law, death penalty, education, Equal Rights Amendment, insurance, Meramec Dam, nursing homes, public health, and taxes. Correspondence, reports, Senate bills, fact sheets, press releases and newsclippings.

**SERIES 2:** State Senatorial Campaign, 1976-1980, 2 folders

Arranged Chronologically. Press releases, brochures, flyers, instructions for volunteer campaign workers, hand - outs, endorsement cards, maps, bumper sticker, precinct results,

13th State Senatorial District polling places.

SERIES 3: Publications, 1977-1980. 4 folders

Publications during first term as Senator. Arranged alphabetically. Community Service Directory, newsletters, Visitors Guide to Missouri Senate.

SERIES 4: Pre - Legislative Career, 1964-1975 4 folders

Arranged alphabetically. Articles, television documentary scripts, newsletter, program.

SERIES 5: Newsclippings, 1976-1977, 1 folder

Arranged alphabetically. Profiles of Harriett Woods, and campaign for Missouri Senate.

SERIES 6: Photographs, 1972-1976, 1 folder

Photographs of Harriett Woods at work as TV producer, and Missouri Senate Campaign photograph.

### **FOLDER LIST**

Series 1:

#### **BOX 1 (127013)**

1. "A" General, 1979-1980
2. Abortion, 1977, 1979
3. Abortion, 1979-1980
4. Administrative Rules, Joint Committee on, 1978
5. Adult Abuse, 1977-1979
6. Agriculture, 1977-1979
7. Animals, Humane Treatment of, 1979
8. Appointment, Senate Committee of, 1977
9. Appointment, Senate Committee of, 1977-1978
10. Blue Law, 1977
11. Blue Law, 1977
12. Bridgeton, Missouri
13. Child Abuse, 1977
14. Circuitbreaker Law, 1977
15. Conflict of Interest Bill No. 535, 1977
16. Constitutional Amendments and Government Reorganization Committee of, 1979
17. Correspondence, 1/77-2/77
18. Correspondence, 3/77
19. Correspondence, 4/77-5/77
20. Correspondence, 6/77-7/77
21. Correspondence, 8/77-10/77
22. Correspondence, 11/77-12/77
23. Correspondence, 1/78
24. Correspondence, 2/78
25. Correspondence, 1979-1980
26. Correspondence, Letters of Congratulations to Elected Officials, 1977-1978
27. Correspondence, Letters of Recommendation, 1977-1979
28. Credit Unions, 1977
29. Death Penalty, 1977, Death Definition of, 1977

30. Education, Senate Committee of, 1977
31. Education, Correspondence, 1976-1977
32. Education, Correspondence, 1977-1980
33. Education, Deaf Children, 1977
34. Education, Exceptional Child, 1977
35. Education, Foundation Formula, 1977
36. Education, Foundation Formula, 1977
37. Education, Missouri Student Grant Program, 1977
38. Education, Non-Teacher Retirement, 1977
39. Education, Omnibus Bill, 1977
40. Education, Sheltered Workshops, 1977
41. Education, Teacher Retirement, 1977
42. Education, Teacher Retirement, 1977
43. Education, Teacher Retirement, 1977
44. Education, Teacher Retirement, 1977
45. Education, Teacher Retirement, 1977
46. Education, Teacher Retirement, 1977
47. Education, Teacher Salaries, 1977
48. Education, Teacher/Veteran Retirement, 1979-1980
49. Education, Teachers, 1979
50. Education, Tuition Deduction, 1977
51. Education, University of Missouri, 1978-1979

- BOX 2 (127014)**
52. Education, Votech, 1977
  53. Elections, Presidential Primary Bill, 1977
  54. Employment Security Law, 1979
  55. Environment, Coalition for, 1977, 1979
  56. Equal Rights Amendment (con - correspondence), 1/77
  57. Equal Rights Amendment (con - correspondence), 2/77
  58. Equal Rights Amendment (con - correspondence), 3/77-7/77
  59. Equal Rights Amendment (pro - correspondence), 1/77
  60. Equal Rights Amendment (pro - correspondence), 2/77
  61. Equal Rights Amendment (pro - correspondence), 2/77
  62. Equal Rights Amendment (pro - correspondence), 3/77
  63. Equal Rights Amendment (pro - correspondence), 4/77- 12/77
  64. Federal Issues, 1978-1979
  65. Flaks, Hyman, Kosher Slaughter, 1979
  66. Flexitime, 1977
  67. Gasohol, 1979
  68. Generic Drug Formula, 1978-1979
  69. Good Samaritan Bill, 1979
  70. Governor's Correspondence, 1979-1980
  71. Governor's Mansion, 1977
  72. Gubernatorial Appointments, 1977
  73. Health, 1977-1978
  74. Insurance
  75. Insurance, Product Liability, 1977-1978
  76. Insurance, Redlining, 1977

77. Labor, 1977
78. License Plates for Disabled Veterans, 1977
79. Local Government, 1977
80. Lottery, Gambling, 1977
81. "M" General
82. Mental Health, 1977
83. Mental Retardation, 1977
84. Mental Retardation, 1977
85. Meramec Dam, Con, 1977
86. Meramec Dam, Pro, 1977
87. Meramec Dam, Pro, 1977
88. Meramec Dam, Pro, 1977
89. Monsanto, 1977-1978
90. "N" General, 1980
91. National Guard, Reimbursement for Special Duty, 1977-1980
92. Natural Resources, Department of, 1979
93. Normandy, 1977-1980
94. Northwoods, 1977-1979
95. Nursing, 1979-1980
96. Nursing Homes, Amendments to House Bill, 1979
97. Nursing Homes, Amendments to House Bill, 1979
98. Nursing Homes, Bills, 1978
99. Nursing Homes, Bills, 1979
100. Nursing Homes, Bill Work Papers, 1979
101. Nursing Homes, Bill Work Papers, 1979
102. Nursing Homes, Boarding House Examples, 1975-1979
103. Nursing Homes, Boarding House Examples, 1979
104. Nursing Homes, Conference Committee Report, #1, 1979
105. Nursing Homes, Conference Committee Report, #2, 1979
106. Nursing Homes, Conference Committee Substitute, 1979
107. Nursing Homes, Conference Committee Summary, 1979
108. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, 11/78-12/78
109. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, 3/79-6/79
110. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, 7/78-10/78
111. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, 1/1979
112. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, 2/79
113. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, 3/79
114. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, 4/79
115. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, 5/1/79-5/15/79
116. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, 5/16/79-5/31/79
117. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, 6/1/79-6/11/79
118. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, 6/12/79-6/30/79
119. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, 7/79-8/79
120. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, Lobby Effort, 3/1/79-3/6/79
121. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, Lobby Effort, 3/7/79-3/8/79
122. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, Lobby Effort, 3/10/79-3/31/79
123. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, Lobby Effort, 4/79-6/79
124. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, Nurse Aids Training, 1978-1979

125. Nursing Homes, Correspondence, Nurse Aids Training, 1979
126. Nursing Homes, Fiscal Note for Truly Agreed, 1979
127. Nursing Homes, House Staff Comparison of Bills, 1979

**BOX 3 (127015)**

128. Nursing Homes, Licensure, 1978-1979
129. Nursing Homes, Medicaid Fraud
130. Nursing Homes, Senate Handouts, 1978
131. Nursing Homes, Health Care Committee Interim Hearing, 9/12/78
132. Nursing Homes, Health Care Committee Interim Hearing, 9/27/78
133. Nursing Homes, Health Care Committee Hearing Report, 1978
134. Nursing Homes, Statements made at Interim Hearing, 1978
135. "O" General, 1980
136. Overland, 1979-1980
137. "P" General, 1979-1980
138. Pagedale, 1977-1978
139. Plumbing
140. Police Department, St. Louis, 1977-1979
141. Political Campaign Finances, 1978-1979
142. Polygraphists, 1977
143. Prayer Book, 1977
144. Prisons, 6/77-9/77
145. Prisons, 1977
146. Psychologists Licensing Bill, 1977
147. Public Health, 1977-1978
148. Public Health, Hazardous Waste, 1977
149. Public Health, Medical Examiner, 1977
150. Public Health, Medicaid, 1977
151. Public Health, Optometry Bill, 1977
152. Public Health, Optometry Bill, 1977
153. Public Service Commission, 1977-1978
154. Real Estate, 1977-1978
155. Ritenour Area, 1977
156. "S" General
157. St. Ann
158. Scheduling, 1978-1980
159. Schools, 1979-1980
160. Senate Committee on Interstate Cooperation, 12/4/78
161. Senate Committee on Urban Affairs and Housing, 1979
162. Senate Committee on Urban Affairs and Housing, Hearing, 6/14/78
163. Senate Information Office
164. Sexual Assault, Organization to Counter, 1979
165. Slavin, Alberta, 1977-1979
166. Social Services, Department of
167. Sovereign Immunity, 1978
168. State Employee Pay Raise, 1977
169. State Employee Retirement, 1977
170. "T" General, 1980

171. Taxes, Corporations, 1977
172. Taxes, County Sales Tax, 1977
173. Taxes, Employer Unemployment Compensation taxable Wage Base, 1977
174. "U" General
175. United Way, 1977, 1980
176. University City, 1977-1980
177. University City, School District, 1977, 1979-1980
178. University of Missouri - St. Louis, 1977-1980
179. Usuary Law, 1979
180. "V" General
181. Vinita Terrace
182. "W" General
183. Washington University
184. Ways and Means, 1977
185. Welfare, 1977
186. Workmen's Compensation, 1980
187. Young, Robert, 1977, 1980

Series 2: State Senatorial Campaign, 1976-1980

188. State Senatorial Campaign, 1976
189. State Senatorial Campaign, 1980

Series 3: Publications, 1977-1980

190. Community Service Directory, 1979-1980
191. Newsletter, Citizens With Harriett Woods, 1977-1979
192. Newsletter, Missouri State Senate, 1977-1980
193. Visitor's Guide to Missouri Senate, 1978-1979

Series 4: Pre - Legislature Career, 1964-1975

194. Focus - Midwest Magazine, 1964
195. Television Scripts, 1974
196. Television Script
197. University City Council, 1969, 1975

Series 5: Newsclippings, 1976-1977

198. Newsclippings

Series 6: Photographs

199. Photographs

**INDEX**

- Abortion, f. 2, 3  
Blue Law, f. 10-11  
Bridgeton, Missouri, f. 12  
Child Abuse, f. 13

Capital Punishment, f. 29  
Education, f. 30-52, 159  
Employment, f. 54  
Environment, f. 55  
Equal Rights Amendment, f. 56-63  
Flaks, Hyman, f. 65  
Good Samaritan Bill, f. 69  
Insurance, f. 75-76  
Lottery, f. 80  
Mental Health, f. 82-84  
Meramec Dam, f. 85-88  
Monsanto, f. 89  
Normandy, f. 93  
Nursing, f. 95  
Nursing Homes, f. 96-134  
Overland, Missouri, f. 136  
Pagedale, Missouri, f. 138  
Prisons, f. 144-145  
Public Health, f. 147-152  
St. Ann, Missouri, f. 157  
Taxes, f. 171-173  
University City, f. 176-177, 197  
University of Missouri-St. Louis, f. 178  
Veterans, f. 78  
Vinita Terrace, Missouri, f. 181  
Washington University, f. 183  
Welfare, f. 185  
Workmen's Compensation, f. 186  
Young, Robert, f. 187