

S0490 Woods, Harriett F. (1927-)
Addenda, 1975-1983
68 Folders

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Related Collections:

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

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

Harriett Woods donated records concerning her U. S. Senate campaign and second term to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection at the University of Missouri-St. Louis on June 21, 1984.

In November 1980 Senator Woods began her second term as Missouri State Senator from the 13th District. During this four-year term she sponsored legislation to provide tax relief for the elderly. Senator Woods also sponsored a drunk driving bill designed to increase the number of DWI convictions. The bill, which took effect in August 1982, established a central record-keeping system to keep track of multiple offenders.

Other successful legislation sponsored by Woods in her second term included a bill to enforce the collection of child support payments; a bill passed in 1983 requiring at least one licensed dental hygienist with voting privileges to sit on the Missouri Dental Board; and a bill creating a program for the protection and advocacy of the rights of people with developmental disabilities.

In 1983 Woods successfully sponsored SB 278 which sped up collection of income tax, sales tax, and use tax on a quarterly-monthly basis thereby creating more state monthly. In 1982 Woods campaigned as the Democratic candidate for the U. S. Senate seat held by Republican senator John C. Danforth. Endorsed by the Missouri Women's Political Caucus, the Missouri State Labor Council, the United Auto Workers of Missouri and the State Council of Machinists, Woods' campaign centered on opposing the economic policies of the Reagan administration which Danforth consistently supported. She favored federal support for farmers, reducing interest rates to revitalize the automotive and housing industries; and she opposed an amendment to balance the federal budget.

Woods lost the election by a 51 to 49 per cent margin which some attributed to her pro-abortion stance in a state where the majority of voters are against abortion. After her defeat, Woods continued to serve the remaining two years of her term as state senator.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Harriett Woods Addenda, 1975-1983, primarily document Woods' second term as a

Missouri senator. It primarily contains legislative files and newsclippings from this period. The collection is divided into two series: 1. Legislative Files, 1975-1983, folders 1-49; and 2. Newsclippings, 1977-1982, folders 50-68. The second series is divided into four sub-series: a. County Newsclippings, 1982, folders 45-55; b. General Newsclippings, 1982, folders 56-60; c. Miscellaneous, 1977-1982, folders 61 and 62; and d. United States Senate Primaries, 1982, folders 63-68.

This collection is related to collections S0051 and S0652

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