

Guide to the Jack Edwards Congressional Papers

Descriptive Summary:

Creator: Jack Edwards

Title: Jack Edwards Congressional Papers

Dates: 1965-1984

Quantity: 387 linear feet

Abstract: Numerous files relating to the day-to-day operations of a U.S. congressional office and to the issues faced by U.S. congressmen.

Accession: 86-09-129 ; 129-1986

Biographical Note:

William Jackson "Jack" Edwards was born in 1928 in Birmingham, Alabama. His family subsequently moved to Point Clear, Alabama, and he ran successfully for the congressional seat for Alabama's First District in 1964. Edwards served in the U.S. Congress until 1985, and then returned to his law practice in Mobile, Alabama.

Scope and Contents:

The Jack Edwards Papers span Edwards' entire twenty-year congressional career, and include congressional office and subject files; constituent correspondence; departmental documents; files related to the operation of his congressional office; appointment books for 1965 through 1981; and papers related to his district visits. The material is supplemented by Republican Party and convention materials, as well as by speeches, legislation, news releases, voting records, photographs, and audio and video cassettes. Of particular interest are files related to Edwards' Defense Appropriations Subcommittee assignment; stint as vice chair of the Republican Conference; Vietnam; school busing and desegregation; George Wallace for President campaign; the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway and other waterways in the First District; and matters related to the Watergate scandal, including the impeachment proceedings and later pardon of Richard Nixon. Also includes a five-volume

memoir (typescript) of his life, written by Edwards and a CD of scans of photos of the aftermath of Hurricane Frederic from his collection.

Arrangement:

Original order restored while organizing. Arranged topically by year based upon a filing system established by the congressman's office. Each topic or federal department was given a number by the office and each year material for the previous year was filed and that for the current year that was related to that topic, person, or federal department was placed in a new file with that key number.

Access Restrictions:

This material is open to research.

Preferred Citation:

Jack Edwards Congressional Papers, The Doy Leale McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL.

Content List: [available in .pdf]