

Missouri State Archives

Finding Aid 552.12

LEGISLATOR PAPERS

KEN LEGAN, 1981-2002

Abstract: Papers (1996-2002) of Missouri State Representative Ken Legan (1946-) include correspondence files.

Extent: 1.6 cubic ft. (4 Hollinger boxes)

Physical Description: Paper

Location: MSA Stacks 44A/4/9

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Access Restrictions: There are no special restrictions.

Publication Restrictions: Copyright is in the public domain for state publications and for correspondence to and from Legan in his official capacity. Researchers bear sole responsibility for following applicable copyright laws.

Acquisition Information: Accession 2002-0240.

Processing Information: Processing was completed by Sharon E. Brock on December 10, 2007.

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Ken Legan was born August 3, 1946, in Halfway, Missouri. He graduated from Halfway High School and obtained a degree in agriculture from the University of Missouri-Columbia. A farmer and U.S. Army veteran, Representative Legan was elected as a Republican to the Missouri State House of Representatives in a 1981 special election. He was re-elected in 1982 and served the 145th District, encompassing parts of Dallas and Polk Counties, until 2002.

Representative Legan was appointed to the Missouri House Agriculture Committee, the Appropriations—General Administration Committee, and the Budget Committee. He also served as Missouri House minority whip during the 83rd-85th General Assemblies.

SERIES

The papers of Ken Legan are broken down into the following series:

Correspondence, 1996-2002

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1996-2002

Arrangement: Chronologically by date of response and thereunder alphabetically by surname.

Scope and Content

Incoming and outgoing constituent correspondence comprise the bulk of the collection. Miscellaneous office memoranda, legislative correspondence, and limited personal correspondence are scattered throughout. Personal correspondence pertains to the Alaskan vacation that Rep. Legan took with family and friends in 2001.

On some electronic mail received by his office, Rep. Legan handwrote his response on the original communication. There are also select letters from voters for which Mr. Legan's response was not included in the correspondence files. Although topics of regional and national interest may be found in the papers, the overwhelming focus was on local matters. Three issues generated the greatest reaction: budget problems and possible cuts in mental health funding; the proposition by the Missouri Public Services Commission to allow telephone companies to abolish the Community Option Service in Buffalo and surrounding rural areas; and possible cuts in early childhood education funding caused by Missouri's deepening budget woes.

Additional concerns include increases in postage rates and the elimination of junk mail; violation of the Missouri Clean Water Act by the city of Humansville; English as the official language for Missouri; professors at the University of Missouri who cannot speak English well enough to be understood by their students; exemption of federal and state pensions from income taxation; and the impeachment of President William J. Clinton. Constituents also expressed concern over the Hancock Amendment; the ongoing state budget crisis; the difference in pay between the Missouri state police and Missouri water patrol officers; the lack of state employee raises; the use of Missouri State Police for security on casinos; the elimination of the state sales tax on food; the requirement that children be secured in cars seats; the consequences of outcome-based education mandated by the 1993 Outstanding Schools Act; adequate funding for special education programs; change in testing dates mandated by the Show-Me Education Standards and handwritten thank you letters from students; cockfighting; the elimination of the Motor Vehicle Bureau selling the addresses of new car owners to mass marketers; the regulation of outdoor advertising (road signs); requests for assistance with food stamps, disability payments, and reductions in prison sentences; and the possible elimination of the death penalty in Missouri.

Mr. Legan's constituents were also deeply concerned about the state of health care. Correspondence addressed problems with health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and related managed health care; the reduction in the Medicare/Medicaid budget; Medicaid spend downs and economic impact on senior citizens; increase in premiums for the elderly and trouble finding transportation to and from medical appointments; dentists

who would not accept the Missouri Medicare card; the nurse to patient ratio; and the general rising cost of medical insurance.

Of special interest is the running correspondence between Rep. Legan and Keith A. Cook of Humansville, Missouri. Mr. Cook consistently wrote his legislator and Mr. Legan's responses were involved and informative. In early March 1999, the advanced biology class at Bolivar High School wrote substantive individual letters to Rep. Legan in regards to endangered species and the loss of natural habitat.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Year	Contents
44A/4/9	1	1	1996-January 1997	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	2	February 1997	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	3	March 1997	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	4	April 1997	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	5	May-July 1997	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	6	August-December 1997	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	7	January-February 1998	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	8	March 1998	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	9	April 1998	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	10	May-June 1998	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	11	July 1998	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	12	August-September 1998	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	13	October 1998	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	14	November 1998	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	15	January 1999	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	16	February 1999	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	17	March 2-29, 1999	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	18	March 31, 1999	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	19	April 1999	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	20	May 1999	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	21	June-July 1999	Correspondence
44A/4/9	1	22	August 1999	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	1	September-October 1999	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	2	November-December 1999	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	3	January 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	4	February 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	5	March 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	6	April 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	7	May 1-8, 2000	Correspondence

44A/4/9	2	8	May 9-10, 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	9	June 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	10	July 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	11	August 1-15, 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	12	August 16-31, 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	13	September 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	14	October 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	15	November 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	16	December 2000	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	17	January 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	18	February 1-20, 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	19	February 21-28, 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	20	March 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	21	April 1-10, 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	2	22	April 11-29, 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	1	May 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	2	June 1-13, 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	3	June 14-28, 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	4	July 1-17, 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	5	July 18-31, 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	6	July 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	7	August 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	8	August 1-15, 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	9	August 16-31, 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	10	September 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	11	October 2001	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	12	January 2002	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	13	February 1-14, 2002	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	14	February 15-28, 2002	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	15	March 1-14, 2002	Correspondence
44A/4/9	3	16	March 15-21, 2002	Correspondence
44A/4/9	4	1	April 1-5, 2002	Correspondence
44A/4/9	4	2	April 6-18, 2002	Correspondence
44A/4/9	4	3	April 19-30, 2002	Correspondence
44A/4/9	4	4	May 2002	Correspondence
44A/4/9	4	5	June 2002	Correspondence