

MS-154: Thomas L. Fries Papers

Collection Number: MS-154

Title: Thomas L. Fries Papers

Dates: 1981-1982

Creator: Fries, Thomas L.

Summary/Abstract:

Thomas Fries was a Dayton, Ohio area (86th District) state legislator from 1971-1982. His papers contain material pertaining to legislation considered and/or composed by Fries during the 114th General Assembly of 1981-1982. Included are copies of legislation, correspondence, memos, and speeches.

Quantity/Physical Description: 2.0 linear feet

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092

Restrictions on Access: There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

Restrictions on Use: Copyright restrictions may apply. Unpublished manuscripts are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

Preferred Citation:

[Description of item, Date, Box #, Folder #], MS-154, Thomas L. Fries Papers, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Acquisition: The collection was donated to Special Collections and Archives by Thomas Fries via the Ohio Historical Society in March, 1983.

Other Finding Aid:

The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries web site at

http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collection_guides/guide_files/ms154.pdf. It is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at <http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

Related Material:

Charles J. Curran Papers

<http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms346.pdf>

Processing Information: A file labeled “Resumes” dated 1981 contained resumes sent to Fries’ office by job seekers. The file was removed from this collection and contents shredded in December of 2018 due to lack of historical value and privacy concerns.

Revisions: Finding aid updated according to DACS standard by Alyssa Stark and Toni Vanden Bos, February, 2019.

Processed by: David A. Rae in June of 1985.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged into three series:

Series I: General Political Papers, 1981-1982

Series II: House Bills, 1981-1982

Series III: Senate Bills, 1981-1982

Biographical Note:

Thomas Louis Fries was born in Dayton, Ohio on September 28, 1942, the son of Robert L. and Charlotte Van Ostrand Hawley. Fries’ father abandoned the household in 1950, and eventually his mother remarried. Fries attended public school in Dayton, later attending Ohio State University for three years, Bowling Green State University for one year, and the University of Dayton for two years.

He was interested in sports in general and baseball in particular, playing professional baseball with the Minnesota Twins from 1960 to 1964 and the Washington Senators from 1964 to 1966. Fries married Esther Carole Stookey in 1963, and the couple had two children, Thomas Louis Fries, Jr., and Melissa Suzanne Fries.

Thomas Fries worked in the Sales and Marketing Division of Gulf Oil Corporation from 1966 to 1970, and began his elective political career by running successfully as a Democrat for the 86th district state representative in 1970. His service on the Ohio House Finance Committee spanned six terms over twelve years (1971-1983), the entire length of his tenure as state representative. In 1982 when Charles Curran resigned from the Ohio Senate, Fries was appointed as Curran’s replacement. However, ten months short of fulfilling the term, Fries decided to retire. Tom Talbot filled the seat until the general election in which Chuck Horn won. In addition to his legislative duties, Fries was an active member of the Citizens’ Clean Air Association, and the Huber Heights-Wayne Township Jaycees.

Scope and Content Note:

Thomas Fries represented the 86th State Legislative District for twelve years, January 1971-January 1983. This collection focuses on his papers from the 114th General Assembly (1981-1982), which pertain to legislation considered and/or composed by Thomas Fries and his colleagues serving on the Ohio House Finance Committee.

The records tend to be somewhat repetitious and include verbatim copies of submitted and amended bills, form letter memos, and fiscal notes pertaining to legislation. “Scope and content” sheets descriptive of various bills are found in the folders dealing with Representative Fries’ co-legislators on the Finance Committee.

The material pertinent to Fries' political life aside from legislative matters includes correspondence between Finance Committee members, letters received expressing opinions for or against certain legislation, and Fries' press releases. These documents illuminate the life of a politician concerned with duties of fundraising, attending inconclusive committee meetings, and other considerations.

This collection falls rather evenly through 1981-1982, a time of increasing economic distress in Ohio. There is a slight preponderance of notes from 1982, which is understandable, considering it was an election year (although Fries declined to run for a seventh term). A weakness of the collection is the abundance of verbatim legislation, for example, H.B. 580 and other bills are listed in their entirety.

The collection contains nothing more explanatory concerning the legislation than a series of brief "scope and content" sheets, which do not aid the ordinary citizen's conception of a bill's significance. The personalized general political category is clearly more beneficial in regards to gaining a general understanding of some of the aspects of a politician's life and career in a two-year period.

Subject Terms

Persons/Families

Fries, Thomas L. -- Manuscripts

Organizations/Corporate Names

Ohio. General Assembly. Senate.

Ohio. General Assembly. House of Representatives.

Ohio. General Assembly. House of Representatives. Finance Committee

Places

Ohio -- Politics and government

Subjects (General)

Legislators -- Ohio

Material Types

Bills (legislative records)

Correspondence

State government records

Speeches (documents)

Collection Inventory

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
Series I: General Political Papers			1981-1982
1	1	Press Releases, 114 th General Assembly	1981-1982
1	2	Columbus Report	1981
1	3	Committee Hearing Announcements	1982
1	4	Committee Hearing Announcements Forms	1982
1	5	Committee Secretary's Manual	1981
1	6	House Bill 900 – General Correspondence	1982
1	7	Invitation Reponses	1982
1	8	Letters of Recommendation 114 th	1981-1982
1	9	Letters of Recommendation (Students)	1981
1	10	Letters Received	1982
1	11	Maps – Ohio Districts	undated
1	12	Memoranda	1981
1	13	Permission Slips for Recording	1981
1	14	Preparing a Committee Report	1981
1	15	Reference Committee Reports, 114 th G. A.	1981-1982
1	16	Representative Batchelder	1982
1	17	Representative Bell	1982
1	18	Representative Bonanno	1982
2	1	Representative Fries	1981-1982
2	2	Representative Fries	1981-1982
2	3	Representative Healy	1981-1982
2	4	Representative Hinig	1981-1982
2	5	Representative James	1981-1982
2	6	Representative D. Johnson	1981-1982
2	7	Representative Mahnic	1981-1982
2	8	Representative Nettle	1981-1982
2	9	Representative Ney	1981-1982
2	10	Representative Pottenger	1981-1982
2	11	Representative Saxbe	1982
2	12	Representative Turner	1981-1982
2	13	Sport Speeches and Quotes	undated
2	14	Speeches	1982
2	15	Telephone Calls, 114 th General Assembly	1981
2	16	Washington Senate Bill on S&L's Correspondence	1982
Series II: House Bills			1981-1982
3	1	H. B. 95 – Interest Rates, Political Subdivision Notes	1981-1982
3	2	H. B. 113 – Pensions Systems, Real Estate Mortgage Investment	1981-1982

Box	File	Description	Date
3	3	H. B. 134 – Licensees-Registrants, Small Loan and Second Mortgage Laws	1981
3	4	H. B. 189 – Computation, Interest on Judgement	1981-1982
3	5	H. B. 190 – Banking board Reserve Requirements	1981-1982
3	6	H. B. 197 – Raise interest rates on judgements	1981
3	7	H. B. 225 – Limit Bank Giveaways	1981
3	8	H. B. 230 – Depository Law – Counties	1981
3	9	H. B. 255 – Deposit Public Funds – Now Accounts	1981
3	10	H. B. 280 – Banking Regulations	1981
3	11	H. B. 405 – Tax Exemption – Interest on Savings	1981
3	12	H. B. 526 – Rate of Interest, Bank Credit – Retail Agreements	1981
3	13	H. B. 538 – Locate Public Utilities Prior to Construction	1981-1982
3	14	H. B. 538 – Subcommittee Report	1981-1982
4	1	H. B. 580 – Regulation – Consumer Financial Securities	1981
4	2	H. B. 843 – Income Tax Retirement Exclusion	1982
4	3	H. B. 854 - Energy Credits Program, Public Utilities Subcommittee	1982
4	4	H. B. 862 – Fries, et. al.	1981-1982
4	5	H. B. 900 – Expand Building and Loan Association Powers	1982
4	6	H. B. 900 – Information in Regard to	1981-1982
4	7	Amended H. B. 900 - Batchelder	1981-1982
4	8	Amended H. B. 900 – Bonanno	1982
4	9	Subcommittee on Amended H. B. 900	1981-1982
4	10	H. B. 1020 – Nursing Home Requirements	1982
4	11	House Joint Bill 31 – Create Home Loan Mortgage Association	1981
Series III: Senate Bills			1981-1982
4	12	AM.S.B. 112 – Eliminate Ceiling on Stock Dividends	1981-1982
4	13	AM.S.B. 161 – Indexing of Financial Statements	1981
4	14	AM.S.B. 264 – Government Pay Financial Institutions for Copying	1981
4	15	AM.S.B. 325 – Banking Board Representation	1981-1982
4	16	Senate Bill 425 – Building and Loan, Savings, and Loan	undated
4	17	Amended Sub. S.B. 425 – “Building and Loan” and “Savings and Loan”	1981-1982