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**WALTER F. MONDALE PAPERS**  
**Vice Presidential Office**

**An Inventory of the Public Finance Task Force Files**

**Access to or use of this collection is currently restricted.**

**For details, see Administrative Information.**

**OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION**

<b>Creator:</b>	Vice President: Counsel and Deputy Chief of Staff
<b>Title:</b>	Public Finance Task Force files,
<b>Date:</b>	1979.
<b>Abstract:</b>	Minutes, memoranda, background materials, and data on Congress members' positions and votes on the issue of public financing of election campaigns.
<b>Quantity:</b>	1.0 cu. ft. (1 box).
<b>Location:</b>	154.I.9.8F

**SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION**

Minutes, memoranda, background materials, and compilations of data on Congress members' positions and votes on the issue of public financing of election campaigns, gathered by the White House Task Force on Public Finance.

The task force was composed mainly of members of the White House and Vice Presidential staffs and representatives from several public policy groups, and was chaired by Mondale's deputy chief of staff, Michael Berman. Its initial charge is not documented in these files, but it focused its attention largely on public financing of campaigns for the House of Representatives. It studied public opinion, Congressional voting records, past and pending legislation, House campaign spending patterns, and the conceptual and technical aspects of public financing, and attempted to influence the passage of a public financing bill (H.R. 1). It held its first meeting on February 9, 1979, was recessed subject to the call of the chairman on May 31, following the defeat of H.R. 1, and apparently never reconvened.

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

### Restrictions:

Access: Until April 15, 2006, access to these files requires written permission.

Use: Until April 15, 2006, quotation or publication beyond the fair use provisions of the copyright law requires written permission.

### Preferred Citation:

*[Indicate the cited item and folder title here].* Walter F. Mondale Papers: Vice Presidential Office: Counsel and Deputy Chief of Staff: Public Finance Task Force files. Minnesota Historical Society.

*See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.*

### Accession Information:

Accession number:

### Processing Information:

Processed by: Lydia Lucas, June 1996.

Appraisal note: Reduced from original 4¼ boxes through removal of duplicates, published hearings (title pages kept; full texts are available at the University of Minnesota), and texts of previous years' bills (lists are in the files). It is not clear whether this is the record set of this task force's files.

Provenance note: The majority of these files came from Michael Berman's office. Some materials kept by Maxine Isaacs, deputy press secretary, were interfiled.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

*Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note the location shown below.*

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	
154.I.9.8F	---	<p>A. File Guide.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Task Force Members.</li><li>2. Task Force Meeting Minutes, Agendas, Notes. (Appears to be an incomplete set)</li><li>3. House Administration Committee Members. Lists, 91st-96th Congresses; memo from Bob Torricelli (2/8/79) on each member's position re public financing.</li><li>4. Senate Rules Committee Members (list).</li><li>5. Public Financing Legislation, 93rd Congress. Synopses of the provisions of each bill introduced.</li><li>6. Public Financing Legislation, 94th Congress.</li><li>7. Public Financing Legislation, 95th Congress.</li><li>8. H. R. 1. Bill text, summaries, comments, analyses, and memos regarding proposed changes.</li><li>9. Campaign Spending, House of Representatives. Copy of published data on receipts and expenditures for 1976 House races.</li><li>10. General History of Public Finance.</li><li>11. Research Materials, Public Finance. (2 folders) Copies of assorted research articles and other background materials.</li><li>12. Research Materials, Campaign Spending.</li><li>13. Newspaper Articles, Public Finance.</li><li>14. Editorials, Public Finance.</li><li>15. Organizations Supporting Public Finance.</li><li>16. Sponsors of Public Financing Legislation.</li><li>17. Common Cause Polls. Of Congress members regarding their positions on public finance.</li><li>19. Voting Records: House of Representatives. On public financing bills.</li><li>20. Polls. Results of Gallop, Harris, and other public opinion polls, and comments thereon.</li><li>21. Task Force Members: Memoranda from the Chair (1 item)</li></ol>

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>
154.I.9.8F	--- 22. Public Financing Notes - Berman. 23. Strategy - Persuasion (House and Senate). Memos regarding proposed White House strategy in support of public finance legislation. 24. Task Force Reports. A few memos; no actual reports. 25. Election Campaign Fund. Memos and miscellany on the status of Congressional and Presidential campaign funds. 26. Election Reform Proposals: General. A few miscellaneous items. 27. Public Finance Correspondence. A few items. 28. Primaries [dates of]. 29. Hearings and Testimony. (2 folders) Statements and other comments on H.R. 1, and information on scheduled hearings. 30. Outreach Strategy/Memos, etc. Memos regarding strategy for media briefings. 31. Senate Public Financing Bill [S.623] Text and comments. 32. Contributions. Data on political action committee contributions; Common Cause study, <i>How Money Talks in Congress</i> . 33. University of Michigan Research. A few letters and memos re a study of approaches to campaign spending. 35. Computer Data Base. Input summary and memo re the task force's database on House members' positions on public financing. 36. Target List, H.R. 1 Lobbying Effort. More lists of House members and positions. Editors' Briefing Notes. Notes, Maxine Isaacs. 1979 Check Off (Tax Returns). Mainly weekly and cumulative reports on presidential designations on income tax returns, 1978-1979. Campaign Contribution Reform Act of 1979. Text of and memo regarding an unnumbered proposal; and text and summary of a related bill, H.R. 496.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	
154.I.9.8F	---	Book 1, House of Representatives. 2 folders. Compilation of data, mainly computer printouts (probably from the task force's database) on House roll call votes, House co-sponsors, results of House Common Cause polls, ranking of House members' positions, and related data. Removed from looseleaf binder.