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## Silvio O. Conte Papers

1950-1991

388 boxes (582 linear ft.)

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Massachusetts State Senator for the Berkshire District, 1950-1958, and representative for Massachusetts's First District in the United States Congress for 17 terms, 1959-1991, where he made significant contributions in the areas of health and human services, the environment, education, energy, transportation, and small business. Spanning four decades and eight presidents, the papers offer an extraordinary perspective on the major social, economic, and cultural changes experienced by the American people. Includes correspondence, speeches, press releases, bill files, his voting record, committee files, scrapbooks, travel files, audio-visual materials and over 5,000 photographs and slides.

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## Background on Silvio O. Conte

Silvio O. Conte, 1973

A moderate New England Republican, Silvio O. Conte represented the 1st District of Massachusetts in Congress in the U.S. House of Representatives for over 30 years. The son of Italian immigrants who had settled in Pittsfield, Mass., Conte was born on Nov. 9, 1921, and was a product of the local public schools. After service in the Navy during the Second World War, he used the G.I. Bill to earn undergraduate and law (1949) degrees from Boston College.

Returning to his home in Western Massachusetts after completing his education, Conte set up practice in the law, but almost immediately dove into politics. In a district in which Democrats held the edge, he ran as a Republican, after being frozen out by local Democratic insiders, and easily won election to the state Senate on his first try in 1950. Over the next eight years, he instilled himself as an influential member of the committees on the Judiciary, Public Welfare, Towns, and Juvenile Delinquency, chairing the Committees on Judiciary, Conservation, Constitutional Law, and Insurance.

With the retirement of long-term representative John Heselton in 1958, Conte ran for, and won, election to the U.S. House as representative of the First District, which covered much of western Massachusetts. In his first term in office, he secured a place on the powerful House Appropriations Committee and its Subcommittee on the Treasury and Post Office and Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Conte won a reputation during his sixteen terms in office as a fierce advocate for his constituents and for bringing home the proverbial bacon. His record of success included securing a succession of lucrative defense contracts for General Electric in his home town of Pittsfield and driving federal support for the establishment of the polymer research center at UMass Amherst that now bears his name.

Throughout his career, Conte enjoyed a down to earth reputation and he seemed to most observers to love the legislative process and the opportunity to improve the lives of his constituents and to harness the power of the federal government to the needs of the American people. Described as an affable, extroverted, cigar-chomping liberal, he was truly an independent in politics. He and his Democratic friends Tip O'Neil, Edward Boland, and Ted Kennedy forged a powerful and effective bloc in Washington, and Conte often stood up against the extremism then growing within his party. Domestically, his ability to deliver the meat and potatoes policies that benefited his constituents was coupled with a broader liberal agenda that sought to balance fiscal prudence against federal support for the common good. A consistent supporter of civil rights legislation, he marched with Martin Luther King at Selma in 1965, opposed calls for a constitutional amendment to prohibit school busing in the early 1970s, and he was an original sponsor of the ill-fated H.R. 700, Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1985. He earned the distinction of becoming the first member of the Massachusetts delegation to speak out against the war in Vietnam in 1968, and late in his career, he became one of only three Republicans who voted to deny President Bush authorization to use force to repel Iraqi troops from Kuwait.

Conte's independence and instinctive moderation also pitted him against members of his party who sought to dismantle or defund social programs and international aid. "Being on this [Republican] side of the aisle," he once said, "has allowed me to do a lot of good, whereas over there, I'd be just another vote." An early and enthusiastic supporter of the legislation that authorized establishment of the Peace Corps, his record included leadership in establishing the Public Broadcasting Service and sponsorship of one of the largest emergency supplemental bills ever approved by Congress, the Conte Africa Supplemental, which provided \$800 million for famine and disaster relief. At home, he supported federal funding for student aid, Head Start, and other educational initiatives and perhaps most famously, he advocated strongly for environmental conservation and preservation. Among his most notable legislative accomplishments, he co-authored the North American Wetlands Conservation Act and was instrumental in passage of the landmark Clean Air Act of 1990. His impact on federal health policy and support for scientific research was equally profound.

Although his political power and effectiveness never waned, Conte was often out of step with the Republican mainstream, particularly in the latter years of his career. "I like Ronald Reagan," he wrote, "but this party is getting carried away with its crazy ideology. They think I'm a 'dumb Dago,' but they're wrong. And someday this country will pay a price for the programs they're cutting." His popularity in his district was unmatched. Conte won each of the 17 congressional elections in which he took part, often winning more than seventy percent of the vote. In the late 1980s, however, his health began to deteriorate. Already hampered by severe arthritis, Conte contracted prostate cancer, but was committed to remaining in office. Surgery in 1987 and other treatments were ultimately unsuccessful. Following two surgical attempts to remove a blood clot on his brain, Conte died in the naval hospital at Bethesda, Maryland, on Feb. 8, 1991, aged 69. In addition to the Conte Polymer Research Center at UMass Amherst, he lent his name to projects as diverse as the National Archives Center and West Side Elementary School in Pittsfield; Building 49 at the National Institutes of Health; the 36,000 acre Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge that protects the Connecticut River Watershed; and a nature trail in Hadley, Mass.

## **Conte Chronology**

1921

Born in Pittsfield, Massachusetts on November 9th to Ottavio and Lucia (Lora) Conte.

1940

Following graduation from Pittsfield Vocational High School worked for a time as a machinist at General Electric Co. and later in the press room of the Berkshire Eagle.

1942

Enlisted in the Navy and served from 1942 to 1944 with the Seabees in the Southwest Pacific during World War II.

1947

Married the former Corinne Duval on November 8th.

1949

Graduated from Boston College Law School in June.

1950

In November was elected to the Massachusetts State Senate for the first of four successive terms. Served on the Committees of Judiciary, Public Welfare, Towns and Juvenile Delinquency. Was Chairman of the Committees on Judiciary, Conservation, Constitutional Law and Insurance.

1954

Received the Young Man of the Year Award from the Massachusetts Junior Chamber of Commerce.

1958

Elected to the United States House of Representatives defeating Professor James M. Burns of Williams College by a decisive margin.

1959

Named to the powerful Appropriations Committee and its Subcommittee on the Treasury and Post Office and Subcommittee on Foreign Operations. Traveled to Southeast Asia to inspect the Mutual Security Program (foreign aid) operations. Cosponsored an Area Redevelopment Bill that would provide federal funds on a loan basis to finance industrial development projects to areas with chronic unemployment.

1960

Delegate to the Republican National Convention. Five new towns - Amherst, Hadley, Hatfield, Northampton and Easthampton - were added to the First District as a result of redistricting.

1961

Cast a deciding vote that changed the make-up of the House Rules Committee to enable President Kennedy to move his legislative agenda through Congress. Legislation to establish a Cape Cod National Seashore was signed into law. As an original co-sponsor, worked for over two years to enact this measure. Voted enthusiastically in favor of legislation authorizing the establishment of the Peace Corps. House adopted Conte amendment to Peace Corps bill prohibiting members of Peace Corps from serving in any country where they may be subjected to discrimination.

1962

Won re-election by a wider margin than any other Republican incumbent who faced opposition. Urged approval of sponsored bill, House Joint Resolution 479, intended to protect the golden and bald eagles from extinction. Introduced an amendment to eliminate the use of occupant and boxholder mailing privileges of Members of Congress.

1963

Named by Republic of Italy to the rank of Commendatore of the Order of Merit for his work in support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Introduced legislation that would create a National Economic Conversion Commission, its mission to minimize changes in defense spending on the economy. Cast crucial Appropriations Committee vote in support of President Johnson's foreign aid package, bucking Democratic Chairman Otto Passman.

1964

Denounced by extremists at the Republican National Convention held in San Francisco for outspoken opposition to the John Birch Society. Received the nomination of both the Republican and Democratic parties in bid for re-election to Congressional seat. Cosponsored immigration and naturalization reform legislation. Conte bill would liberalize policies and overhaul the quota system.

1965

Appointed a member of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission on February 1st. Named to the Joint Commission on the Coinage when that body was authorized under the Coinage Act of 1965. One of first members of Congress to support the creation of the Medicare and Medicaid Programs. Marched along with Martin Luther King, Jr. on historic march to Selma, Alabama.

1966

Eliminated quota on residual oil imports to the East Coast. Supported the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. Began serving on the Small Business Committee and held ranking minority seat from 1969 to 1978.

1967

Helped to establish public broadcasting by voting for the Public Broadcasting Act.

1968

Spoke out against Vietnam War before Pittsfield Area Council of Churches, becoming first member of Massachusetts delegation to oppose the war. As member of the Republican presidential convention's platform committee, publicly opposed nomination of Spiro Agnew as Vice-President, preferring George Romney of Michigan.

1969

Introduced first bill ever to eliminate the oil import quota system that had been instituted in 1959. Appointed to Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation.

1970

Wrote law creating Amtrak to preserve passenger rail travel. Won re-election unopposed for the fourth election in a row. Voted against supersonic transport (SST) despite widespread support in First District.

1971

Secured assignment on Health, Education and Welfare Subcommittee and relinquished seats on Subcommittees on Foreign Operations and Treasury, Postal Service. Became ranking minority member of Transportation Subcommittee. In April held first annual trout derby on Onota Lake, Pittsfield.

1972

Voted against a constitutional amendment which would prohibit the busing of school children to achieve racially balanced schools. Cosponsored the Fair International Trade Act of 1972 to modernize existing law regarding the regulation of

1973

Named co-chairman of the newly organized New England Congressional Caucus. Reappointed to the Foreign Operations Subcommittee, after two-year hiatus. Awarded honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the University of Massachusetts. Obtained initial grant to fund the Five College free bus system.

1974

Demanded immediate Congressional investigation into effect of aerosol sprays on the ozone layer. Introduced amendment to Foreign Aid bill to limit funds to Cambodia.

1975

Traveled to the Middle East with Congressional delegation. Met with Israeli and Egyptian leaders. Cosponsored legislation to study feasibility of establishing a nationally sponsored cross-country bicycle trails system. Sponsored successful amendment to bar expenditure of \$122.9 million for further production of the F1-11F fighter bomber. Satirized Emergency Farm Price Support Bill by proposing

1976

Broke a House-Senate deadlock on the abortion issue, by writing compromise language to prohibit federal funding

1977

Traveled to China as part of congressional delegation.

1978

Created with House Speaker Tip O'Neill, low-income home energy assistance program, (LIHEAP).

1979

Became ranking minority member of the House Appropriations Committee and ranking minority member on the Legislative; Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education; and Transportation subcommittees. Gave up seat on Foreign Operations subcommittee. Appointed by Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill, Jr. to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. Supported the passage of the Alaska Lands legislation which provided for the preservation of millions of acres of wilderness in Alaska. Released final report of the New England Energy Congress. Sponsored by the New England Congressional Congress, of which Conte was co-chairman, the report addressed 22 energy conservation bills, many of vital concern to oil-dependent New England.

1980

The Small Business Development Center opened at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Played a leading role in obtaining federal funds necessary to start program. Introduced legislation for a nuclear freeze.

1981

Kept Westover Air Force Base in Chicopee open with joint-use agreement. Prevailed in the decade-long fight against the Dickey-Lincoln water project in Maine with the deauthorization of project. Traveled to Australia and New Zealand as part of a Congressional delegation.

1982

The Small Business Innovation and Development Act passed. Had sponsored and supported for past five years through legislative initiative as a member of the House Committee on Small Business. Joined the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues. (Formerly the Congresswomen's Caucus)

1983

Cosponsored the first \$5 million for AIDS research. Donned a pig's snout and ears on the House floor to denounce pork-barrel projects and specifically to fight the Garrison Diversion Project in North Dakota. Was the second Paul Hoffmann Lecturer at the United Nations in New York. Voted against funding for MX missiles in Appropriations Committee vote. Ultimately approved by 30-26 vote.

1984

Introduced H.R. 5175 to impose a nine-month moratorium on large oil company mergers.

1985

The Conte Africa Supplemental was signed into law. It provided \$800 million for famine and disaster relief and was one of the largest emergency supplemental bills ever approved by Congress. Traveled to the Soviet Union as a member of first Congressional delegation to meet with Mikhail Gorbachev. Urged Soviet leader to halt nuclear arms race. An original sponsor of H.R. 700, Civil Rights Restoration Act. Act was ultimately defeated by pro-life groups.

1986

Helped to prevent the construction by the U.S. Air Force of the highly unpopular Radio Relay Tower.

1987

Underwent surgery for removal of cancerous growth in prostate gland. In the wake of

1988

Won passage of cosponsored plant-closing legislation. Announced support for own party presidential candidate George Bush over Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis. Announced a \$300,000 Health and Human Services grant to the Holyoke Health Center to combat high infant mortality rates.

1989

Coauthored the landmark North American Wetlands Conservation Act, which provided up to \$25 million annually for wetland and waterfowl habitat preservation and restoration. Spoke at dedication of the Silvio O. Conte Forum, the new Athletic Arena, Boston College on February 19. Obtained \$2 million grant for Smith College in Northampton. Won enactment of resolution to declare the 1990s

**1990**

Reelected to 17th term with 78 percent of the vote. Announced allocation of funds through amendment on Treasury, Postal Service Appropriations Bill for move of the Regional United States Fish and Wildlife Service Office to the Amherst area. Through same amendment allocated funds to build a New England Regional Archives of the National Archives in Pittsfield. In February introduced bill H.R. 3977 Antarctica Protection and Conservation Act, the first bill to increase protection for the Antarctic environment and prevent mineral exploitation. Established an educational foundation to assist graduating First District high school students attend a college of their choice. Passage of the Clean Air Act, the culmination of a decade-long fight to stop acid rain. Had signed on as the first Republican sponsor of new clean-air and acid-rain legislation. Appointed by President to sit on Budget Summit, as one of eleven members of the House. Worked out a proposal to keep the federal deficit on a declining track. Attended dedication of the Silvio O. Conte Anadromous Fish Research Center, Turner's Falls capping twenty-four-year effort to bring Atlantic salmon back to Connecticut River. Introduced amendment to farm bill limiting government subsidies to \$100,000 per farmer and banning farmers from collecting multiple subsidies. Although amendment went down in defeat, succeeded in limiting subsidies to \$250,000 per farmer. Through position on Subcommittee on Transportation restored popular Montrealer service from Washington to Montreal with service through Amherst and obtained \$139 million to set up high-speed Boston-New York Rail service. Broke with President Bush in voting against constitutional amendment banning burning of U.S. flag. Singled out by the Citizens Against Government Waste as one of four representatives most accomplished at garnering grants for his state and district.

**1991**

On January 12th submitted last big vote as one of only three Republican members of Congress to deny President Bush the authority to use force to repel Iraqi troops from Kuwait. In honor of career-long efforts to restore the Connecticut River and to complete the work begun, passage of H.R. 794 was completed which named the fish and wildlife haven along the Connecticut River the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, only the second such designated refuge in the country. Died February 8th at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland of complications caused by cancer.

## **Conte's Committee & Subcommittee Assignments**

**1959-1991**

House Appropriations Committee (Ranking Minority Member of Full Committee, 1979-91)

**1959-1971, 1973-1979**

Subcommittee on Foreign Operations

**1959-197**

Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, General Government

**1969-1991**

Subcommittee on Transportation, (Ranking Minority Member 1979-91)

**1971-1991**

Subcommittee on Health, Education & Welfare (1971-1979)\* (Ranking Minority Member 1979-1991)

## **Note**

\*Committee was restructured in 1980

**1979-1991**

Subcommittee on Legislative (Ranking Minority Member 1979-1991)

**1966-1991**

Small Business Committee (Ranking Minority Member 1969-1979); Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (1980-1991)

## **Towns in Conte's District**

State Senate District 1950-1958

- Berkshire County : Adams, Alford, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Egremont, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lenox, Mount Washington, New Ashford, North Adams, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor

First Congressional District, 1958-1962

- Berkshire County: Adams, Alford, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Egremont, Florida, Great Barrington, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, Monterey, Mount Washington, New Ashford, New Malborough, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Sandisfield, Savoy, Sheffield, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor
- Franklin County: Ashfield, Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Erving, Gill, Greenfield, Hawley, Heath, Leverett, Leyden, Monroe, Montague, New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Rowe, Shelburne, Shutesbury, Sunderland, Warwick, Wendell, Whateley
- Hampden County: Blandford, Chester, Granville, Holyoke, Montgomery, Russell, Southwick, Tolland, Westfield

- Hampshire County: Belchertown, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Pelham, Plainfield, Southampton, Westhampton, Williamsburg, Worthington
- Worcester County: Athol, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston, Templeton

#### First Congressional District, 1962-1966

- Removed:
  - Hampshire County: Belchertown
- Added:
  - Hampshire County: Amherst, Easthampton, Hadley, Hatfield, Northampton

#### First Congressional District, 1966-1971

- Added:
  - Hampden County: Agawam, West Springfield, Worcester County, Barre, Hardwick, Hubbardston, New Braintree, Oakham, Rutland

#### First Congressional District, 1971-1981

- Removed:
  - Franklin County: Orange, Worcester County, Athol, Barre, Hardwick, Hubbardston, New Braintree, Oakham, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston, Rutland, Templeton
- Added:
  - Hampshire County: Belchertown, Granby, South Hadley, Ware

#### First Congressional District, 1981-1991

- Added:
  - Franklin County: Orange
  - Worcester County: Athol, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston, Templeton, Winchendon

## Scope of collection

In the book *Congress and Its Members* Congressional scholars Roger Davidson and Walter Oleszek discuss the "dual nature of Congress," observing that "there really are two Congresses. One of these is Congress as a lawmaking institution - the Congress of textbooks, of how-a-bill-becomes-a-law...There is also a second Congress...it comprises men and women of diverse backgrounds...whose electoral fortunes depend less upon what Congress produces as an institution than upon the support and goodwill of voters hundreds of miles away."<sup>1</sup> This duality is revealed throughout the Silvio O. Conte Congressional Papers - from the vast array of bill files, position papers, mark-ups for consideration, reports, and floor statements, to the constituent mail, Conte speeches delivered throughout the district, returned constituent questionnaires, and the hundreds of photographs of Conte with his constituents.

The Silvio O. Conte Congressional Papers, 1950-1991 document Conte's public service first as Massachusetts State Senator for the Berkshire District, 1950-1958 and primarily as representative for Massachusetts's First District in the United States Congress for 17 terms, 1959-1991, where he made significant contributions in the areas of health and human services, the environment, education, energy, transportation, and small business.

The collection comprises 575 linear feet of those files maintained by Conte and his staff in Washington, D.C. and in the two district offices in Pittsfield and Holyoke (most of which is casework with restricted access), including correspondence, speeches, press releases, bill files, his voting record, committee files, scrapbooks, travel files, audio-visual materials and over 5,000 photographs and slides. The papers have been divided into five subgroups delineating broad functional areas of a congressional office: Personal/Political/Official; Legislative; Press Relations/Media Activities; Constituent Services; Office Administration. Each subgroup has been further divided into series based on file format and type of activity documented. Detailed descriptions of each of these 27 series are included in this guide.

There are folder title lists - which serve as primary subject access to the materials - for each series, although several have been omitted from this guide because of excessive length. The series excluded are: Legislative Subject Files, General Subject Files, Bills Files and item-level lists of VIP Correspondence, Speeches, Press Releases, Audio-Visual materials, and Photographs. These lists are available to researchers in the Special Collections and University Archives Reading Room.

The State Senator series (Subgroup I, Series 2), documents Conte's beginnings as a politician. Divided into speeches, correspondence, campaign and subject files spanning 1950-1958, this valuable series illustrates issues central to 1950s politics on the national and state level. Other early files of significance exist in the Travel series (I, 3) which feature Conte's handwritten notes and taped recordings with his personal accounts of the inspection tours of U.S. foreign aid programs in Africa and Southeast Asia during the 1960s that he participated in as a member of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee (see also Audio-Visual series, III, 6).

The bulk of the collection is contained in the two series identified as House Appropriations Committee Files (II, 3a-3m) and Legislative Subject/Correspondence files (II, 6a-6b). The Appropriations Committee Files reveal Conte's powerful position as ranking minority member of that committee from 1979-1991, a position that gave him a vote on all thirteen subcommittees. Although official committee records remain in Washington, D.C., housed in the Center for Legislative Archives, documentation of much of the work done by aides as they monitored the appropriations process and gathered information that Conte needed to make informed decisions remained within the collection. Although Conte served on the Small Business Committee from 1965-1991 and was very active in crafting legislation and providing vigorous support to small businesses in the First District, few files remain in this collection to document his influential role. Within the House Appropriations Committee Files, the Subcommittees on Interior and Health and Human Services are the largest of the subseries and cover areas in which Conte took a passionate personal interest and was an established leader in Congress.

The Health and Human Services Files (II, 3h.2) document Conte's largely successful efforts to continue full funding to the National Institutes of Health for biomedical research; and to support programs such as the low income home energy assistance program, (LIHEAP) and family planning centers in Western Massachusetts.

An ardent conservationist and outdoorsman, Conte fought for 10 years for passage of stringent acid rain legislation, and his efforts to clean up the Connecticut River and restore the Atlantic salmon to it are manifest in the Subcommittee on Interior Files (II, 3g). Within the General Budget subseries (II, 3a) are Conte's handwritten notes regarding periodic meetings (1983-1989) he attended at the White House with cabinet members, the Republican leadership, and the President as well as notes on his participation in the Budget Summits of 1987 and 1990. His attendance reveals his important position as ranking minority member of the Appropriations Committee and his recognized ability for bipartisan compromise.

While supporting most large-scale social spending requests, Conte established himself as a fiscal conservative in other areas. A colorful figure with a penchant for theatrics, his vocal denunciations sometimes took the form of satirical poems or pranks. The later years of his longstanding crusade to limit the size of farm subsidies are documented in the Subcommittee on Agriculture Files (II, 3i). The Energy and Water Subcommittee files (II, 3d) reveal his opposition to water projects such as the Garrison Diversion project in North Dakota and the Dickey-Lincoln Dam project, both of which he viewed as environmentally damaging boondoggles. The Department of Energy Files (II, 3h.2), a segment of the Subcommittee on Interior Files, document his efforts to kill the Synthetic Fuels Corporation which he had accused of "bankrolling the pet projects of the fat-cat oil barons."

The Legislative Subject/Correspondence Files (II, Series 6) reflect Conte's early assignments on the Treasury-Postal Service & Foreign Operations Subcommittees and contain mostly constituent correspondence and the office's response. Issues documented include the invasion of Cambodia, the Vietnam War, Watergate, the Civil Rights movement, communism, firearms control, abortion, the Equal Rights Amendment, oil import quotas, the energy crisis, and federal aid to education.

Davidson and Oleszek make the observation that "Members of Congress . . . depend upon the support of their electorate in order to serve. In turn, they are expected to understand and promote the views of constituents and to serve as their links with the federal government."<sup>2</sup> Two sections of the collection that illustrate this reciprocity are the Press Relations/Media Activities and Constituent Services subgroups. Conte kept in touch with his constituents by mail, by public appearances, and by radio and television appearances. The Speeches, Press Releases, Radio and Television Transcripts, and Newsletters series document this function. Maintained by staff more carefully than most other parts of the collection, the series offer valuable synopses of Conte's political career.

A large portion of the Audio-Visual materials (III, Series 6) consists of audio recordings of Conte's weekly radio show. Most of the 16mm films consist of Conte's five minute television programs, often condensed versions of the radio show, which aired mainly during 1959, 1961 and 1967-1968. Included here is an audio recording of a 1958 testimonial dinner honoring Conte's election to Congress; a 1967 film of an interview with John W. Lederle, President of University of Massachusetts; and an audio recording of the 1987 fund raiser for the endowment of the Silvio O. Conte chair at the University of Massachusetts.

Research strategies should be formulated carefully and researchers should keep in mind that there is substantial overlap of topical coverage and information is widely dispersed throughout this large collection. A good example of this is Conte's fight against oil import quotas. Because New Englanders are highly dependent on oil for heating fuel the quotas adversely affect them by causing oil prices to rise. Conte began his vocal opposition in his first year in Congress when the Eisenhower administration instituted the quota system. He continued to fight for free trade with regard to oil throughout his career. Discussion of his continuing efforts can be found within the Floor Statements series in the form of a compilation by staff of all floor remarks Conte made regarding oil import quotas and fees spanning the years 1959-1984; this issue is also documented in the staff-compiled Oil Notebooks located in the Issue Books/Briefing Books series. His efforts to inform his constituents of his activities are reflected in the Speeches, Press Releases, Radio and Television Transcripts, and Newsletters. Documentation of the legislative initiatives he sponsored exist in the Bill Files, Voting Record, and all the way up to the 1990 Budget Summit notes filed in the Appropriations

Committee Series, which document Conte's efforts to block Senator Lloyd Bentsen's proposal to reinstate the quotas to increase revenues. And finally, constituents' opinion on this topic can be found in the Legislative Subject/Correspondence Files and annual constituent questionnaires.

Aside from the study of legislation, public policy debates, and the relationship between Congressman and his constituents, the Conte Papers are a history of the times in which he served. Spanning four decades and eight presidents, the papers offer an extraordinary perspective on the major social, economic, and cultural changes experienced by the American people.

## **Footnotes**

1. Davidson, Roger H. and Oleszek, Walter J., *Congress and Its Members*, 4th ed. (Washington, DC 1994)
2. Ibid.

## **Inventory**

### Subgroup I. Personal, Political, Official

#### Series 1: Biographical Files

1965-1991

1 box, 1.25 linear ft.

The Biographical Files provide background on Conte's life and political career. This series has been artificially created by drawing from other series within the collection. Materials within folders in this series are arranged chronologically and include biographical sketches generated by aides; feature articles on Conte; transcripts of interviews; guest lists and notes regarding both of Conte's well-known annual celebrations the Labor Day Atlantic salmon party (1985-1989) and his birthday party (1983-1986) at the Botanical Gardens in Washington, D.C. There are also obituaries and several folders containing news clippings with substantive biographical content. This series contains a compilation of the famed rhymes he recited on the House floor and a few of his published writings. Tax returns from 1959 to 1975, and a few cards and notes from family members round out this key series.

#### Articles on Conte

1965-1990

6 folders

Box 1

Articles, Features

#### Massachusetts Wildlife

1974 Nov.-Dec.

Box 1

"Ham of the House," Audubon

1986 Jan.

Box 1

"Silvio O. Conte, His Own Man," The Berkshires Magazine

1989-1990

Box 1

"The Autumn of the Patriarch," Berkshire Magazine

1990 Nov.

Box 1

Obituaries and Commemorations, SOC

1991 Feb.

15 folders

Box 1

Congressional Record, H.Res. 76, Expressing Sorrow of the House on the death of Silvio O. Conte

1991 Feb.

Box 1

Eulogies, by Hon. Thomas (Tip) O'Neill, Jr. and Hon. Robert Michel

1991 Feb.

Box 1

Biographical Sketches

Interviews

WGBY-TV Interview  
1977  
Box 1  
WMAL-Radio, June  
1977  
Box 1  
Westinghouse Broadcasting Meeting, WBZ-TV  
1977  
Box 1  
C-Span "American Profiles, Notes  
1989 Nov.  
Box 1  
Boston Globe Interview, Persian Gulf War  
1990 Feb.  
Box 1  
Issues and Interviews  
1985  
Box 1  
Issues and Interviews  
1995  
Box 1  
Poems and Published Writings  
undated  
Box 1  
Roast, SOC, materials on  
1990  
Box 1  
Family, Miscellaneous

Box 1  
Income Tax Returns  
1959-1975  
Box 1  
Guest Lists and Mailing lists  
1984-1990  
Box 1  
Alaskan Salmon Party  
1985-1988  
Box 1  
Birthday Party, SOC's  
1987-1990  
Box 1  
Awards, received by SOC  
1961-1990  
Box 1  
Awards, background material

Series 2: State Senator Files  
1950-1958  
9 boxes, 11.25 linear ft.

The State Senate Files document Conte's eight-year tenure as a Massachusetts State Senator representing the Berkshire District. This series makes possible insight into Conte's formative years as a politician and public servant. The files reflect Conte's early involvement in what would become his major career interests: health and human services, education, the environment, and transportation. As a State Senator he served on more committees than had any other member of the state Legislature, and was the youngest legislator, in the history of the Commonwealth, to serve as chairman of the important Committee on Insurance.

This series documents his extensive involvement in legislative and investigative committees and his correspondence with constituents. Included in the nine boxes are campaign materials, correspondence, speeches, and subject files.

The one box of campaign materials is arranged in chronological order according to campaign year. Files for each campaign include addresses, correspondence with constituents and colleagues, newspaper clippings, endorsements, and campaign expenditures. Senator Conte's campaign addresses are particularly useful in revealing his political convictions as well as issues central to 1950s politics.

The four boxes of correspondence are the largest group of files within the State Senator series and reveal his diligent attention to his district's concerns and his dedication to serving his constituency. The correspondence, comprised of both incoming and outgoing letters, is almost entirely constituent-oriented with nearly one quarter of the correspondence consisting of general requests made by constituents, all of which were dutifully completed. The files are arranged both alphabetically by the name of the correspondent and by general subject.

Perhaps more than any other group of files in this series, Conte's speeches reveal his personality and opinions. Conte's speeches were candid, often humorous, and suggest that he was not afraid of difficult fights. The box of speeches is arranged in alphabetical order by subject or location of speech. Often folders contain more than one speech made on a single subject.

The subject files consist of three boxes and are arranged alphabetically. Each subject file contains an assortment of materials including correspondence, background material, newsclippings and Conte's handwritten notes. Most of the files pertain to legislation or committee activity. Prominent issues reflecting public sentiment during the 1950s McCarthyism, the Cold War and defense spending, unions, and the push for public works are recurring themes. During his years as a State Senator, Conte was particularly well known for his investigative work into mismanagement of union health and welfare trust funds; for authoring legislation establishing accident and health insurance for all state, city, town, and county employees, the first such law in the United States; and for introducing a bill outlawing communism in Massachusetts.

Also well documented in the subject files is his interest in the environment, evidenced in his work as chairman of the Conservation Committee and illustrated by his repeated efforts to obtain new state conservation and recreation areas.

His efforts to curb juvenile delinquency and his investigations of such health insurance agencies as Blue Cross and Blue Shield foretold his future vigorous support for health and social service programs in Congress. Conte also received attention for his vehement opposition to Governor Foster Furculo's proposal to establish the first sales tax in Massachusetts.

Included in the subject files are five folders of newsclippings provided by a newsclip service to which Conte subscribed. The clippings are extremely useful in obtaining background information on Conte's legislative and campaign activities.

The variety of subjects represented shows the diversity of Conte's interests, ranging from farming legislation to foreign affairs, and from an investigation of Gypsy Moths to authorship of a "Witches Bill" which exonerated the final eight victims of the Salem Witch Trials. Many topics represented in the subject files also appear in the State Senate speech files.

#### Subseries a: Campaign Materials

State Senator Campaign, General Material  
undated  
Box 2  
1950 State Senator Campaign

4 folders  
General

2 folders  
Box 2  
Addresses and "Radio Spots"

Box 2  
Expenditures

Box 2  
1952 State Senator Campaign

4 folders  
General

Box 2  
Addresses

Box 2  
Congratulation Letters

Box 2  
Expenditures

Box 2  
1954 Lieutenant Governor Candidacy

Box 2  
1954 State Senator Campaign

7 folders  
General

Box 2  
Addresses

Box 2  
Contributions

Box 2  
Correspondence

Box 2  
Expenses

Box 2  
Newsclippings and Advertisements

Box 2  
Nomination Papers and Thank-you Letters

Box 2  
1954 State Treasurer Candidacy

Box 2  
1956 State Senator Campaign

3 folders  
General

Box 2  
Addresses

Box 2  
Endorsements

Box 2  
1958 State Attorney General Candidacy

Box 2  
1958 U.S. Congressional Campaign

9 folders  
General

Box 2  
Addresses and Radio/TV Commercials

Box 2  
Burns, James M.

2 folders  
Biographical and Correspondence

Box 2  
Newsclippings

Box 2  
Conte for Congress Rally

Box 2  
Endorsements

Box 2  
Letters to Editors

Box 2  
Newsclippings

Box 2  
Republican Party Campaign Kit

Box 2  
Subseries b: Correspondence

Correspondence A  
1950-1958

Box 3  
Alberti, John  
1951-1954

Box 3  
Correspondence B-C  
1950-1958

4 folders  
Box 3

Cooke, Stanley  
1958-1959

Box 3  
Correspondence D-H  
1950-1958  
8 folders

Box 3  
Herter, Christian  
1952-1958  
Box 3  
Correspondence I-L  
1950-1958  
3 folders  
Box 3  
Correspondence M-Z  
1950-1958  
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Box 4  
Employment, Summer  
1955-1958  
4 folders  
Box 4  
High School Honors Students  
1958  
Box 4  
Insurance  
1956  
Box 4  
Juvenile Delinquency  
1951-1952  
Box 4  
Legislation, General  
1953-1954  
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Box 4  
Legislation, General  
1956-1958  
7 folders  
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License Requests  
1957-1958  
Box 5  
"Personal"  
1950-1958  
6 folders  
Box 5  
Petitions  
1956  
Box 5  
"Screwball Letters"  
1955-1958  
Box 5  
Requests, General  
1951-1958  
18 folders  
Box 6  
Subseries c: Speeches

All Souls Chapel, 10th Anniversary  
1958  
Box 7  
Anti-Semitism  
undated  
Box 7  
Armistice Day  
1953  
Box 7  
Auto Insurance  
1953-1956  
Box 7  
Black History Week  
1954  
Box 7

Boston College  
undated  
Box 7  
Boy's Club  
undated  
Box 7  
Boy Scouts  
undated  
Box 7  
Brotherhood Week  
1953-1958  
Box 7  
Budget, State  
undated  
Box 7  
Castellani Farewell Banquet  
1952  
Box 7  
Catholic Speeches  
undated  
Box 7  
Catholic Youth Center Communion Breakfast  
1958  
Box 7  
Cerebral Palsy  
undated  
Box 7  
Communism  
1950-1954  
Box 7  
Compoli Marriage Toast  
undated  
Box 7  
Conte, Silvio Testimonial Dinner  
1952  
Box 7  
Education  
undated  
Box 7  
Elks Lodge Memorial Exercises  
1951  
Box 7  
Fish and Game  
undated  
Box 7  
Flag Day  
1953-1958  
Box 7  
Fourth of July  
undated  
Box 7  
Franco-American Club  
1958  
Box 7  
Furbush, Richard Nomination  
1954  
Box 7  
General Court Procedure  
undated  
Box 7  
General Speeches and Statements  
1958  
Box 7  
Gloucester, MA  
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Box 7  
Gold Star Mothers  
1952

Box 7  
Government Spending and Extravagance  
1951  
Box 7  
Graduated Income Tax  
1952  
Box 7  
Great Ponds Sportsmen  
1958  
Box 7  
Gubernatorial 4-year Term Bill  
undated  
Box 7  
Health and Welfare Trust Fund  
1958  
Box 7  
Housatonic River  
1957  
Box 7  
Insurance  
1952  
Box 7  
Italian Americans  
1952  
Box 7  
Kessler, Rev. Walter Testimonial Dinner  
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Box 7  
Kiwanis Club  
undated  
Box 7  
Knights of Columbus  
1956-1958  
Box 7  
League of Women Voters  
1950-1956  
Box 7  
Massachusetts State Government, Functions of  
1955  
Box 7  
Memorial Day  
1958  
Box 7  
Mother's Day  
undated  
Box 7  
National Defense  
undated  
Box 7  
Pittsfield Chamber of Commerce  
1955  
Box 7  
Pittsfield High-School Commencement  
1954  
Box 7  
Pittsfield High-School Reunion  
1955  
Box 7  
Pittsfield Police, Communion Breakfast  
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Box 7  
Policemans Association, Massachusetts  
undated  
Box 7  
Quirico, Francis Testimonial Dinner  
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Box 7  
Racial Discrimination

1957  
Box 7  
Real Estate Association  
undated  
Box 7  
Republican Club  
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undated  
Box 7  
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undated  
Box 7  
Women Prisoners Conditional Placement Bill  
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Box 7  
Yon, Frederick Testimonial Dinner  
undated  
Box 7  
Subseries d: Subject Files

Adams, MA, Dust Problem  
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Box 8  
Albany, NY, Bicentennial  
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Box 8  
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1955-1956  
Box 8  
Arbitration Law  
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Box 8  
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1955  
Box 8  
Berkshire County Commissioners  
1956  
Box 8  
Berkshire County Judgeship  
1956  
Box 8  
Billboard Bill  
1953  
Box 8  
Bills filed by Conte  
1954  
Box 8  
Biographical and Memorabilia  
1950-1959

Box 8  
Blue Cross & Blue Shield Investigation

1958

Box 8

Boston College

1952-1956

Box 8

Burkhardt Testimonial Dinner

1957

Box 8

Cassino, Italy Orphanage

1951

Box 8

Capitol Punishment

1957

Box 8

Cards, Assorted

1950-1958

Box 8

Cheshire, MA

1958

Box 8

Child Welfare

1954

Box 8

Chiropractors Bill

1957

Box 8

Civil Defense

1954

Box 8

Civil Service, Department of

1956

Box 8

Clarksburg, MA

1955-1957

Box 8

Commerce, Department of

1955

Box 8

Communism Bill

1951

Box 8

SEE ALSO: Crusade for Freedom

Congressional Redistricting Plan

1954

Box 8

Conservation Committee

1952-1957

2 folders

Box 8

Constitutional Law Committee

1953

Box 8

Counsel, Assignment of in Criminal Cases

1958

Box 8

Court District Reorganization

1953-1956

Box 8

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1953-1954

Box 8

Daily Memorandums

1953

Box 8

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Box 8  
Discrimination in College Fraternities  
1956  
Box 8  
Dutch Elm Disease  
1953-1956  
Box 8  
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Box 8  
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Box 8  
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Box 8  
Fluoridation Bill

Box 8

SEE: Water Supply

Fund Raising Campaigns, Special Committee on  
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Box 8  
Furculo, Foster  
1957  
Box 8

SEE ALSO: Tax, Sales

Gasoline Price Investigation Commission

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Box 9  
Home Rule Bill  
1952  
Box 9  
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1952-1958  
Box 9  
Insect and Pest Control  
1951-1955  
Box 9

Insurance Committee

7 folders  
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Box 9  
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Box 9  
Employee Bill  
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Box 9  
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Notebooks, Conte's  
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Italo-American Voter's League  
undated  
Box 9  
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Box 9  
Juvenile Delinquency  
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Box 9

SEE ALSO: Youth Service Board

Labor  
1953-1957  
Box 9

SEE ALSO: Pension Bills

Lanesboro Billboard  
1954-1956  
Box 9  
Legislative Notes, Conte's Handwritten  
undated  
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1957-1958  
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Legislation, General  
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Massachusetts Heritage Program  
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Box 10  
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Box 10  
Narcotics Bill  
1951  
Box 10  
Natural Gas Investigation

Box 10

SEE ALSO: Utilities, Public

Natural Resources

Box 10

SEE: Conservation Committee

Natural Resources Department  
1954  
Box 10

SEE ALSO: Conservation Committee

Newspaper Clippings

1953-1955

3 folders

Box 10

Newspaper Clippings

1957-1958

2 folders

Box 10

New York Central Railroad Bill

1956

Box 10

North Adams, MA

1954-1956

Box 10

North Adams Teachers College

1953-1956

Box 10

Nurses Bill

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Box 10

Nursing Home Bills

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Box 10

Pension Bills  
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Box 10

SEE ALSO: Health and Welfare Trust Fund

Pittsfield, MA

7 folders  
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Box 10  
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1951-1953  
Box 10  
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Box 10  
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Welfare District Office  
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Box 10  
Police and Fireman's Bill  
1954  
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Press Releases  
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Box 10  
Probation Officers  
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Box 10  
Public Safety Inspectors Bill  
1954  
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Public Works, Department of  
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Box 10  
Radio Time  
1952  
Box 10  
Real Estate Brokers License  
1954-1957  
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Box 10  
Schools, Public  
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Box 10  
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Box 10  
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Susan B. Anthony Proclamation  
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Box 10  
Statesman, The  
1957  
Box 10  
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Box 10  
Water Supply, Public, Fluoridation Bill  
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Box 10  
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Box 10  
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Box 10  
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1953-1958  
Box 10  
Wildlife

Box 10

[SEE: Conservation Committee](#)

Windsor, MA  
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Box 10  
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1951  
Box 10  
Witches Bill  
1957  
Box 10  
Youth Service Board  
1952-1954  
Box 10  
Series 3: Travel Files  
1959-1985  
2 boxes, 2.5 linear ft.

The Travel Files is one of the few series in the collection to reveal at length Conte's own thoughts and impressions. These appear in the handwritten letters and taped recordings he sent to his staff while he traveled. This series contains itineraries, correspondence, background materials, transcripts of personal reports, newsclippings, press releases, thank-you notes, and speeches. The files are arranged chronologically and total two boxes.

Many of Conte's early trips stemmed from his service on the House Appropriations Committee and its Subcommittee on Foreign Operations. The trips were often inspection tours of America's foreign aid programs to developing nations. The most complete files concern Conte's six week tour of Africa and Europe in 1961, accompanied by his good friend and fellow committee member Robert Michel R-IL, and constitute nearly one-half of this series. Here Conte offers interesting commentary on topics ranging from industrialization, agricultural practices, and political structures to descriptions of the climate and local customs. On that 1961 trip Conte made a stopover in Berlin. There he witnessed the flow of East German refugees into West Germany and the hardships endured by the German people as a result of the official separation of the city of Berlin by the construction of the Berlin Wall. His personal accounts of these events and others exemplify his concern for human rights and help to explain his strong support for well-funded foreign assistance programs to developing nations.

Although primarily known for his activism on the domestic front, Conte also played an international role by representing the United States when dealing with foreign leaders. His forays into diplomacy are documented in the China and Soviet Union files. The efforts of the Carter and Reagan administrations to improve Sino-American relationships are reflected in the files on the China Trips in 1977 and 1983. In 1985 Conte was a member of the first Congressional delegation to meet with the Soviet Union's leader Mikhail Gorbachev. As Tip O'Neill said in his eulogy of Conte: "I don't know how many places we went around the world together, but Sil could ask the leader of a nation the most pertinent question that would have taken a diplomat two years to ask. He could get to the point."

Conte occasionally made taped recordings while traveling and these audiotapes are included in the collection often accompanied by a typed transcript. The trip to Africa and Europe in 1961 is especially well documented with audiotapes and transcripts for nine different countries.

Additional series that document Conte's travels include the Speeches, Press Releases, Radio & TV Files, Newsletters, Photographs, and Audio-Visual Materials.

Laos  
1959  
Box 11  
Southeast Asia Trip Report  
1959  
Box 11

Thailand  
1959  
Box 11  
France  
1960  
Box 11  
Greece  
1960  
Box 11  
Italy  
1960  
Box 11  
Africa and Europe, November-December  
1961  
Follow-up and Thank-You Letters

Box 11  
Itineraries

Box 11  
Press Releases

Box 11  
Report, Congressional Committee

Draft & Final, Aug.  
1962  
Box 11  
Subject Files:

Congo, Republic of the

Box 11  
Ethiopia

Box 11  
Kenya

Box 11  
Liberia

Box 11  
Morocco

Box 11  
Nigeria

Box 11  
Rhodesia; Nyasaland

2 folders  
Box 11  
South Africa

Box 11

Transcripts of audiotapes:

Congo, Republic of the

Box 11  
Ethiopia

Box 11  
Germany, East & West

Box 11  
Kenya

Box 11  
Liberia

Box 11  
Morocco

Box 11  
Nigeria

Box 11  
Rhodesia; Nyasaland

Box 11  
South Africa

Box 11  
Paris; Beirut; Cairo; Turkey; Rome; Italy; Portugal; Israel

1964

Box 12

Beirut

1964

2 folders

Box 12

Puerto Rico

1964

Box 12

Syria

1964

Box 12

Europe

1965

Box 12

Poland

1965

Box 12

Columbia, Aug.

1966

Box 12

Thailand; Vietnam; Indonesia

1966

Box 12

Korea; China; Philippines

1971

Box 12

Manilla, Philippines

1973  
2 folders  
Box 12  
Middle East, Transcripts  
1975 Apr.  
Box 12  
Alaska  
1975  
Box 12  
Lesotho, Africa, African-American Conference  
1976  
3 folders  
Transcript  
1976  
Box 12  
Poland  
1976  
Box 12  
China  
1977  
4 folders  
Box 12  
Latin America  
1977 Dec.-1978 Jan.  
Argentina  
1977  
Box 12  
Latin America  
1977 Dec.-1978 Jan.  
Box 12  
Argentina  
1977  
Box 12  
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1978  
Box 12  
Costa Rica  
1978  
Box 12  
Cuba  
1978  
Box 12  
Italy  
1979  
Box 12  
Belgium; England; Hungary; Ireland  
1979  
2 folders  
Box 12  
China; Singapore; Hong Kong; Japan  
1983  
10 folders  
Box 12  
Soviet Union  
1985  
5 folders  
Box 12  
Series 4: VIP Correspondence  
1967-1991  
3 boxes, 3.75 linear ft.

The VIP Correspondence series consists of three boxes of incoming correspondence designated by Conte or his staff for inclusion in a special "VIP" album. For preservation reasons all letters have been removed from

the albums and placed in acid free folders.

Most frequent correspondents in the VIP series include: James A. Baker III, Charles E. Bennett, William Brock, Jimmy Carter, Lawrence Couglin, Elizabeth Dole, Michael Dukakis, Vic Fazio, Gerald Ford, Edward Kennedy, Robert Michel, James C. Miller III, Tip O'Neill, Leon Panetta, Ronald Reagan, Donald Regan, George Shultz, Olympia Snowe, David Stockman, and Jamie Whitten.

Although designated "VIP" by Conte's staff, many of the letters are routine they reflect the networking activities and daily interaction among members of Congress. There are notes thanking fellow members of Congress for small gifts (often home-state products), thank-yous for co-sponsorship of a bill or resolution, Dear Colleague letters, and occasionally a more substantive letter discussing an important national or local issue.

The preponderance of letters from such individuals as David Stockman, White House Budget Director; James C. Miller III, Director of the Office of Management and Budget; and President Ronald Reagan document the major reworking the national budget sustained during the Reagan presidency and underscores the administration's need for Conte's cooperation as the ranking Republican on the House Appropriations Committee in order to implement "Reaganomics." These letters illustrate the growing urgency of the federal budget deficit as a potent political issue by the 1980s.

An alphabetical index to letters is available in Special Collection and Archives Reading Room.

Series 5: Campaign Files and Issue Books  
1960-1990  
4 boxes

Over the course of 17 congressional elections Conte won both party nominations three times and ran unopposed eight times and often won elections by 70% of the vote or more. Full-fledged campaigns were seldom necessary.

The files for each campaign include Conte's official candidacy announcements, correspondence expressing support or congratulations to Conte, information on the Republican party campaign fundraisers and national platform, and Conte's campaign newspaper, *The Conte Record*.

The later campaign files (1978-1990) contain the so-called Issue Books, which were prepared by Conte's staff to provide detailed, factual summaries of Conte's recent (usually in the last Congress) legislative accomplishments and his stance on important campaign issues.

Other series that relate to campaigns include the Scrapbooks, Issue Books/Briefing Books, Biographical Files, and Speeches.

Files regarding Conte's first Congressional campaign in 1958 can be found in the State Senate series.

1960 Campaign  
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3 folders  
General  
1959-1960  
Box 16  
Republican National Congressional Committee Newsletters  
1960  
Box 16  
Republican Platform  
1960  
Box 16  
1962 Campaign, *The Conte Record*  
1962 Feb.  
Box 16  
1964 Campaign  
1964  
2 folders  
Election Statistics  
1964  
Box 16  
Republican Platform  
1964  
Box 16  
1966 Campaign  
1966  
2 folders

General  
1966  
Box 16  
Candidacy Announcement  
1966  
Box 16  
1968 Campaign  
1967-1968  
7 folders  
Candidacy Announcement  
1968 July  
Box 16  
Correspondence, Thank-yous, Congratulations  
1967-1968  
Box 16  
Newsclippings  
1967-1968  
Box 16  
Republican Clubs and Regional Committees  
1967-1968  
Box 16  
Republican National Committee  
1967-1968  
Box 16  
Republican Platform  
1968  
Box 16  
Republican Policy Committee  
1966-1967  
Box 16  
1970 Campaign  
1970  
2 folders  
General  
1970  
Box 16  
Candidacy Announcement  
1970 July  
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1972 Campaign  
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3 folders  
General  
1971-1973  
2 folders  
Box 16  
Republican Platform, Miami Beach, Florida  
1972  
Box 16  
1974 Campaign  
1973-1974  
4 folders  
General  
1973-1974  
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The Conte Record  
1974 Sept.  
Box 16  
Correspondence  
1974  
Box 16  
Newsclippings  
1974  
Box 16  
1976 Campaign  
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General

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1976 Nov.  
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D.C. Fundraiser  
1976 May  
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Issue Book, 95th Congress  
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Common Cause Issues  
1977 May-June  
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1977 June-July  
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Energy, Department of  
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1977 May-June  
Box 16  
Energy, Nuclear  
1976 Sept.-Sept.  
Box 16  
Energy, Oil and Gas  
1973 Nov.-July  
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Energy, Solar  
1976 Sept.-Apr.  
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Transportation, Railroads  
1977 June-Aug.  
Box 16  
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Nomination Papers  
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Box 16  
Review of the 95th Congress  
1978

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Box 17  
Airline Registration, Civil Service Reforms, Consumer Protection

Box 17  
Congressional Affairs, Defense

Box 17  
Education, Election Law Reform

Box 17  
Energy

Box 17  
Employment

Box 17  
Environment

Box 17  
Equal Rights Amendment and Susan B. Anthony Coin, Government Spending

Box 17  
Gun Control, Health Costs and Insurance

Box 17  
Inflation, International Affairs

Box 17  
Labor, Health, Education and Welfare

Box 17  
Law and Criminal Code Reform, Monetary Reform

Box 17  
Small Business

Box 17  
Social Security, Tax Reform

Box 17  
Trade

Box 17  
Transportation, Urban Policy

Box 17  
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Box 17  
Summary, 95th Congress Projections

Box 17  
1980 Campaign

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Box 17  
The Conte Record  
1980 Nov.  
Box 17  
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Box 17  
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Box 17  
Health, Education and Welfare, FY81

Box 17  
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Box 17  
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Box 17  
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Box 17  
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Box 17  
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Box 17  
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Foreign Policy

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Box 17  
Miscellaneous

Box 17  
Press Information  
1980  
Box 17  
Speech, "Basic Campaign Speech,"  
1980  
Box 17  
1982 Campaign  
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1982 Sept.  
Box 18  
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1981 Nov.  
Box 18  
Fundraiser, New England Congressional Caucus  
1981  
Box 18  
Issues Symposium  
1982  
Box 18  
Newsclippings  
1981  
Box 18  
Olver, John  
1981-1982  
Box 18  
Republican Issues  
1982  
Box 18  
Social Security Talking Points  
1982  
Box 18  
Tax Bill  
1981  
Box 18  
1984 Campaign  
1982-1984  
General  
1983-1984

Box 18  
Acid Rain Control Briefing Book

6 folders  
AFL-CIO Candidate's Questionnaire

1983

Box 18  
Candidacy Announcement

1983 Sept.

Box 18

The Conte Record

1984 Nov.

Box 18

D.C. Fundraiser

1983

4 folders

General

1983

2 folders

Box 18

Acknowledgements and Door List

1983

Box 18

Incoming Letters

1983 Sept.

Box 18

Issue Book for 1984 Campaign

17 folders

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Campaign Announcement

Box 18  
Food and Hunger

Box 18  
Housing

Box 18  
Health

Box 18  
Women's Issues; Children; Abortion

Box 18  
Environmental Protection

Box 18  
Education

Box 18  
Energy; Economy/Business

Box 18  
Human Services; Unemployment Programs

Box 18  
Labor; Deficit/Budget

Box 18  
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Box 18  
Central America; Human Rights

Box 18  
Crime; Defense

Box 18  
Transportation; Miscellaneous Issues

Box 18  
Wentworth Fact and Fiction

Box 18  
SOC Awards

Box 18  
Issues Symposium  
1984

Box 18  
Massachusetts Briefing Book

Box 18  
University of Massachusetts Poll Workers  
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Box 18  
Wentworth, Mary  
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General

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Newsclippings

1984

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Women's Issues Letter

1984

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Box 19

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4 folders

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Grants and Federal Expenditures

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Box 19

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Notes for SOC - WREB Radio, Holyoke, 11:00 AM

1986 Oct.

Box 19

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Box 19

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The Conte Record  
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Endorsements  
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Box 19  
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16 folders  
Priorities for 102nd Congress

Box 19  
101st Congress Successes

Box 19  
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Box 19  
Budget; Campaign Finance

Box 19  
Cable TV; Defense

Box 19  
Education; Energy

Box 19  
Environment; Flag Burning

Box 19  
Foreign Policy; Health

Box 19  
Housing; Human Services; Labor

Box 19  
NEA; S&L "Mess;"

Box 19  
Senior Citizens

Box 19  
Small Business;

Box 19  
Economic Statistics; Trade

Box 19  
Transportation; Veterans

Box 19  
Cutting Waste

Box 19  
Berkshire County

Box 19  
Franklin County

Box 19  
Hampden County

Box 19  
Hampshire and Worcester Counties

Box 19  
Issues Symposium  
1990

Box 19  
Pat's List of Campaign Workers  
undated

Box 19  
Talking Points  
undated

Box 19  
Series 6: Invitations/Daily Schedules  
1959-1991  
10 boxes, 12.5 linear ft.

The 10 boxes in this series consist of accepted invitations and daily schedules. The original size of this series was reduced by sampling. Whenever possible daily and weekly summary sheets of Conte's appointments were retained. Arranged chronologically, this series reveals the sheer volume and diversity of requests made

on the Congressman's time.

Series 7: Scrapbooks

1950-1990

42 over-sized boxes

The 80 scrapbooks in this collection cover Conte's eight years in the State Senate as well as every year Conte was in Congress. Compiled by staff, the majority of the scrapbooks comprise news clippings in which Conte's name appears. There are also campaign scrapbooks from the years 1952, 1954, 1958, 1960 (2), 1964, 1968, 1970, 1974, 1976, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990, topical scrapbooks on the 1976 Republican presidential primary, the 1976 election, the 1980 election, the Fall 1987 budget appropriations process and three scrapbooks documenting the annual congressional baseball game for the years 1973-1974 and 1977-1979.

Series 8: Memorabilia

There is a small amount of memorabilia contained in Series 8. Items include a model General Electric power transformer, a framed Treasury check payable to the University of Massachusetts, and House of Representatives cufflinks. There are numerous campaign pins, bumper stickers, and fliers.

A few of the many plaques and awards Conte received over the years can be found here as well. These have been listed below in chronological order.

Certificate of Appreciation to Conte from Kiwanis Club of Pittsfield, MA

1955 Dec.

Box 19

Scroll and signing pen commemorating passage of state legislation to regulate water usage for City of Pittsfield

1955 July

Box 19

Framed letter to Conte from Secretary of State Dean Rusk

1961 Oct.

Box 19

Plaque from "Organization of Executive Departments and Federal Agencies

1964

Box 19

Autographed program of play "An Evening's Journey to Conway, MA" by Archibald MacLeish

1967

Box 19

First Day of Issue of Susan B. Anthony Stamp Ceremony in Adams, MA

1970 June

Box 19

Framed photograph of Robert C. Wood, President of University of Massachusetts, Governor Frank Sargent and Conte, for 1970 Campaign.

1970

Box 19

Framed letter to Conte from Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe

1972 Sept.

Box 19

Republican National Convention Delegate Log Book (3 copies), and Delegate Pass (2 copies)

1972

Box 19

Framed SOC Press Release re: Veto of 1975 Emergency Farm Price Support Bill

1975 May

Box 19

American Revolution Bicentennial Commemorative Medal

1976

Box 19

Framed letter to Conte from President Jimmy Carter

1979 June

Box 19

Framed letter and Commemorative pen to Conte from President Jimmy Carter

1979

Box 19

Framed photograph of Carl Yastremski and Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill

1979

Box 19

Framed letter to Conte from President Jimmy Carter

1980-06-22

Box 19

Framed photograph of Conte receiving first Annual Award for Distinguished Public Service in Support of National Family Planning Programs

Box 19

Dedication of the Silvio O. Conte Medical Research Center, Boston University School of Medicine, Program and Invitation

1985 Oct. 20

Box 19

Plaque of Washington Post article on SOC

1987 May 20

Box 19

Appreciation gift to Conte from Loret Miller Ruppe, Peace Corps, for "being a leader of peace"

1987 Oct. 23

Box 19

Framed copy of receipt from the Hampshire Community Action Commission for "helping everyone in Hampshire County stay warm."

1987 Nov. 25

Box 19

Framed U.S. Treasury Check payable to UMass for \$250,000 for Polymer Research Center

Box 19

Trout Unlimited, Trout Conservation Award for Distinguished Service

Box 19

Framed letter to Conte from Nancy Reagan

Box 19

Association of Community College Trustees Award to Conte

1989 Feb.

Box 19

Invitation to dedication of Silvio O. Conte Forum, Boston College

1989 Feb. 18

Box 19

Framed letter to Conte from Senator Ted Kennedy

1990 Feb. 23

Box 19

Framed photograph of Conte with Jacques Cousteau and copy of Antarctic Protection Act

1990 Apr. 30

Box 19

Signed proclamation of "Decade of the Brain" by Sec. of HHS John Sullivan.

1990 July 26

Box 19

Plaque with aerial photograph of UMass Amherst Campus given to Conte in appreciation "for all that has been done" from Students Advocating Financial Aid, (SAFA) UMass Amherst

undated

Box 19

Award to Conte from Head Start of Franklin County, "in honor of a decade of service"

undated

Box 19

Framed letter to Conte from Senator Ted Kennedy

undated

Box 19

Framed photograph of Conte with Pope John Paul II

undated

Box 19

Framed photograph of Conte with Robert Michel, House Minority leader

undated

Box 19

Framed photograph of Conte and Tip O'Neill in front of Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. Library, Boston College

undated

Box 19

General Electric Model Power Transformer

undated

Box 19

Various pins, buttons, coins, cufflinks, flags, stickers, and campaign paraphernalia

undated

Box 19

Subgroup II. Legislative

Series 1: Voting Record

1959-1991

2 boxes, 2.5 linear ft.

The Voting Record contains printed summaries of Conte's votes in Congress. In addition to the record supplied each member by the House Clerk, this series also includes vote analyses supplied by special interest organizations such as the Americans for Democratic Action (ADA), Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, and the Farmer's Union. From the 86th to 89th Congresses there are charts comparing Conte's vote with the votes of House and Senate leadership and the GOP; and from the 87th to 91st Congresses there are useful summaries that provide a synopsis of the bill's intent and the rationale for Conte's vote.

Beginning with the 99th and continuing through to the 102nd congress the more voluminous Clerk-produced "Legislative Activity Guides" replace the smaller Roll Calls. To supplement these guides there are "Legi-Slate" reports for the 98th and 99th congresses. These reports were obtained for members by the Congressional Research Service using a commercial on-line database and are simply a compilation of all votes by the congressman for that particular session, with a short explanation of the bill.

SOC's Voting Record

1959-1966

Box 30

86th-89th Congresses, Votes Charted by Issue

1959-1966

2 folders

Box 30

86th-91st Congresses, Attendance Record

1959-1970

Box 30

86th Congress 1st and 2nd Session

1959-1960

Box 30

87th Congress

4 folders

1st and 2nd Session

1961-1962

Box 30

Bill Summaries, Vote Justification

1961

Box 30

2nd Session, Bill Summaries, Vote Justification

1962

Box 30

2nd Session, Explanation of SOC Votes

1962

Box 30

88th Congress

3 folders

1st Session

1962

Box 30

2nd Session

1964

Box 30

2nd Session, Comments on Voting Record

1964

Box 30

89th Congress

3 folders

1st Session

1965

Box 30

2nd Session

1966

Box 30  
2nd Session, Comments on Voting Record  
1966  
Box 30  
90th Congress, 1st Session  
1967  
Box 30  
90th Congress, 2nd Session  
1968  
Box 30  
91st Congress

5 folders  
1st Session  
1969  
Box 30  
1st Session, Vote Justification and Comparison Charts

Box 30  
1st Session, Comments on Record

Box 30  
2nd Session  
1970  
Box 30  
2nd Session, Vote Justification and Comparison Charts

Box 30  
92nd Congress, 1st Session  
1971

Box 30  
92nd Congress, 2nd Session  
1972  
Box 30  
93rd Congress, 1st Session  
1973

Box 30  
93rd Congress, 2nd Session  
1974  
Box 30  
94th Congress, 1st Session  
1975

Box 30  
94th Congress, 2nd Session  
1976  
Box 30  
95th Congress, 1st Session  
1977

Box 30  
95th Congress, 2nd Session  
1978  
Box 30  
96th Congress, 1st Session  
1979

Box 30  
96th Congress, 2nd Session  
1980  
Box 30  
97th Congress, 1st Session  
1981

Box 31  
97th Congress, 2nd Session  
1982  
Box 31

98th Congress, 1st Session  
1983  
Box 31  
98th Congress, 2nd Session  
1984  
Box 31  
Legi-Slate Congressional Vote Files

4 folders  
98th Congress, 1st Session  
1983  
Box 31  
98th Congress, 2nd Session  
1984  
Box 31  
99th Congress, 1st Session  
1985  
Box 31  
99th Congress, 2nd Session  
1986  
Box 31  
99th Congress, Legislative Activity Guides

5 folders  
1st Session  
1985  
Box 31  
1st Session  
1985  
Box 31  
1st Session, with Vote Summary and Index  
1985  
Box 31  
2nd Session  
1986  
Box 31  
2nd Session, with Vote Summary and Index  
1986  
Box 31  
100th Congress, Legislative Activity Guides

4 folders  
1st Session  
1987  
Box 31  
1st Session, with Vote Summary and Index  
1987  
Box 31  
2nd Session  
1988  
Box 31  
2nd Session, with Vote Summary and Index  
1988  
Box 31  
101st Congress, Legislative Activity Guides

5 folders  
1st Session  
1989  
Box 31  
1st Session, with Vote Summary and Index  
1989  
Box 31  
2nd Session

1990  
Box 31  
2nd Session  
1990  
Box 31  
2nd Session, Vote Summary and Index

Box 31  
102nd Congress, 1st Session, Legislative Activity Guide

1991  
Comments on Voting Record, Internal Memos and Constituent Correspondence

1959-1964

Box 31

Series 2: Bills of Legislation

1959-1991

23 boxes, 28.75 linear ft.

This series represents Conte's staff's efforts to maintain files on the bills sponsored or cosponsored by Conte. The bills are arranged in chronological order by Congress. Except for the first two Congresses in which Conte served the 86th and 87th covering the years 1959-1963, and the 96th and 97th Congresses which cover 1979-1982 each bill is in an individual folder and arranged by the assigned number.

Exceptions to the folder level arrangement include the 86th Congress, which consists of one folder containing a list of Conte sponsored legislation, and the 87th Congress, which consists of two folders for each session, each containing a list of Conte-sponsored legislation along with a printed bill. Other exceptions to folder level arrangement by bill number can be found in the 96th and 97th Congresses (1979-1982), which have computer generated "Legislative Profiles" produced by the House Office of the Clerk. The profiles summarize bills sponsored or cosponsored by Conte under broad topic.

The contents of the folders vary depending on which staff member maintained the files. Many of the files contain printed bills and drafts of bills, reports, statements, correspondence from constituents, members of congress and lobbyists, press releases, newsclippings and Congressional Record tear sheets; other files contain only a copy of the printed bill.

All types of legislative proposals: bills, both public and private; House Resolutions; House Joint Resolutions; and House Concurrent Resolutions are included and have been arranged in that order. Within each type the folders have been arranged numerically. There are numerous private bills interspersed among the public that pertain to individual matters, such as claims against the government, immigration and naturalization cases, and land titles.

Prominent issues reflect Conte's interests and committee assignments. There is much legislation in the areas of small business, farm subsidy reforms, social security, medicare, clean air and conservation, energy issues especially concerning oil import quotas and trade.

There is overlap within the collection and other series that are likely to have information supplementary to this series include the Legislative Subject/Correspondence Files, Floor Statements and Appropriations Committee Files.

The complete folder-title list for this series has not been included in this guide owing to its great length. It is available in the Special Collections and University Archives Reading Room.

Series 3: House Appropriations Committee

1973-1991

84 boxes, 105 linear ft.

Series 3, House Appropriations Committee Files, consists of the files created and maintained by the minority staff assistants who helped Conte to meet the responsibilities of his position as ranking minority member of the Appropriations Committee.

This series does not fully cover Conte's Appropriations Committee activities. Prior to Conte becoming ranking minority member in 1979, most appropriations-related materials were filed by his staff in the Legislative Subject/Correspondence files.

The files span the 1970s through 1991, and contain documentation of many of Conte's favorite issues and important legislative initiatives. In addition to a subseries for each subcommittee, there are also subseries for General Budget Files, Correspondence, and Markup Books.

Several of the subseries have been further divided. The Interior Subcommittee files have been subdivided into four segments: Acid Rain files, Department of Energy files, Migratory Bird Conservation Commission

(MBCC), and Tim Shea Subject Files. The Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee files have been further divided into Health and Human Services (HHS) files and Education and Labor files and the one box of materials on the Joint Commission on the Coinage has been placed under Treasury-Postal Service Subcommittee files.

There are no files on the Legislative Subcommittee or the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary.

The General Budget Files represent files not directly related to any one subcommittee but created as a result of Conte's leadership role and expertise in the appropriations process.

Subseries 3l, Markup Books, consists of the background information compiled by staffers in their effort to monitor Subcommittee Appropriations bills. The typical markup book consists of a looseleaf binder containing budget justification tables, correspondence from lobbying groups, committee recommendations, report language, and floor statements.

Subseries 3m, two boxes, Appropriations Correspondence, consists of copies of minority staff assistants' outgoing correspondence, filed by the name of the staff member within chronological periods.

Subseries a: General Budget Files  
1982-1990  
3 boxes, 2.5 linear ft.

The files have been arranged chronologically except for the last box, which contains the Budget Summit notes for 1987, 1990, and the White House Notes, 1983-1989.

These files cover general appropriations issues not related to specific subcommittee bills. This includes Office of Management and Budget proposals and overviews, deficit reduction agreements and supplemental and urgent appropriations bills. Notable files in this series include Conte's notes (some with accompanying typed transcripts prepared by office staff) on the meetings he attended as a participant in the Budget Summits of 1987 and 1990. The summits called together cabinet members, leadership in congress, and the president to work out solutions to the budget deficit crisis. Some of the notes have typed transcripts to accompany them. Also of interest are typed transcripts of his notes taken during meetings at the White House spanning 1983-1989. Though other topics were discussed in the White House meetings, topics predominantly pertained to budget issues.

Related series include VIP Correspondence and Scrapbooks.

Fiscal Year 1980, Fithian Amendment  
1979 July  
Box 55  
Fiscal Year 1980, H.R. 7325 Supplemental Appropriations Bill

Box 55  
Fiscal Year 1981 Budget Statement

Box 55  
Fiscal Year 1983

1 folder  
Office of Management and Budget, Budget Presentation, FY83  
1982-02-09  
Box 55  
Fiscal Year 1983, Report to the Budget Committee  
1982-03-15  
Box 55  
Fiscal Year 1983, Bipartisan Recovery Budget Committee  
1982-05  
2 folders  
Box 55  
Fiscal Year 1984

5 folders  
Budget Resolution, House Republican Conference  
1983 Mar.  
Box 55

Continuing Resolution  
1983 June-Sept.  
Box 55  
Engineering Facilities, Boston University/University of New Mexico  
1982-1984  
Box 55  
1st Supplemental Bill, H.R. 3959  
1983 Nov.  
Box 55  
2nd Supplemental Bill, H.R. 6400  
1984 Aug.  
Box 55  
Fiscal Year 1985

9 folders  
Mid-Session Budget Review, Office of Management and Budget  
1984 Aug. 15  
Box 55  
Continuing Resolution

3 folders  
Aug-Sep 1984

Box 55  
Sep-Oct 1984

Box 55  
OMB Position  
1984 Sept.  
Box 55  
Deferrals of Budget Authority  
1985 Mar.  
Box 55  
Supplemental Bill, H.R. 2577

4 folders  
Administration (E.X.O.P.) Position  
1985 May-June  
Box 55  
Rules  
1985 June  
Box 55  
Conference Committee  
1985 May-July  
Box 55  
Conference Committee, Amendments  
1985 June  
Box 55  
Fiscal Year 1986

5 folders  
Budget Presentation, OMB Dir. Stockman  
1985 Feb. 7  
Box 55  
Budget Outline for Editorial Meeting with Berkshire Eagle  
1985 Feb. 9  
Box 55  
Budget Proposal, First Budget Resolution FY86, Sen. Dominici  
1985 Mar. 5  
Box 55  
Budget Proposal for FY86, Mar 15 Report  
1985 Mar.

Box 55  
Urgent Supplemental, H.R. 4515, Conference Committee  
1986 Mar.-June  
Box 55  
Fiscal Year 1987

4 folders  
Budget Resolution  
1986 May  
Box 55  
Supplemental Bill H.R. 1827 and Conference Notes  
1987 Apr.-June  
Box 55  
Section 302B, Budget Allocations  
1987 May  
Box 55  
Fiscal Year 1988

5 folders  
Gramm, Rudman, Hollings Conference Agreement  
1987-09  
Box 55  
Gramm, Rudman, Hollings Report/Budget Sequester  
1987 Oct.  
Box 55  
Continuing Resolution Conference Notes, H.J. Res. 395  
1987 Oct.-Dec.  
Box 55  
Continuing Resolution Rescissions, OMB Action  
1988 Mar.  
Box 55  
Inert Sales, Helium Reserves  
1987 Jan.  
Box 55  
Fiscal Year 1989

10 folders  
Overview Hearing, Testimony, Questions  
1988 Feb.-Mar.  
Box 55  
Section 302B Allocations  
1988 June-Sept.  
Box 55  
Gramm, Rudman, Hollings Deficit Reduction  
1988 Aug.  
Box 55  
Supplemental Appropriations, including H.R. 705, Anti-Drug Appropriations  
1989 Jan.-May  
Box 55  
Supplemental Bill, H.R. 2072

6 folders  
SOC Substitute Amendment  
1989 Apr.  
Box 55  
Drug Funding Amendment  
1989 June  
Box 55  
Floor Action  
1989 Mar.-May  
Box 55  
Office of Management and Budget Position  
1989 June  
Box 55

Conference Committee

1989 June

Box 55

Conference Notes

1989 June

Box 55

Fiscal Year 1990

9 folders

Pres. Reagan Budget Overview

1989 Jan.

Box 56

Pres. Bush Budget Overview

1989 Feb.

Box 56

Pres. Bush Budget Amendments

1989 Mar.

Box 56

Budget Agreement, Bipartisan Scorekeeping Guidelines

1989 Apr.

Box 56

Dept. of Defense Stockpile Issues

1988-1989

Box 56

Sequestration Effects

1989

Box 56

Section 302B Allocations

1989 June

Box 56

Supplemental Appropriations

1990 Mar.

Box 56

Supplemental Appropriations, Conference Committee/Report

1990 July-Aug.

Box 56

Fiscal Year 1991

16 folders

Pres. Bush Budget Overview, Requests

1990 Jan.

Box 56

Federally Funded R&D Centers, Dept. of Defense

1990 Mar.

Box 56

Budget Sequester Summit

1990 July-Sept.

Box 56

Continuing Resolution

1990 Sept.-Oct.

Box 56

Continuing Resolution Speeches

Box 56

Mid-Session Budget Review

1990 July

Box 56

Reconciliation

1990

Box 56

Sequestration, Summit

1990 July-Sept.

Box 56

Sequestration, Dept. and Agency Plans

1990

3 folders  
Box 56  
Sequestration Report  
1990 Sept.  
8 folders  
Box 56  
First, Second, Third, Fifth, Sixth, and Final Draft, and Cover Letter  
1990 Sept.  
Box 56  
Budget Process Reform Act, H.R. 3929  
1986-1990  
Box 56  
Budget Freeze Proposal, Office of Management and Budget  
1985 Jan.  
Box 57  
Budget Rescission Bill, Senate Version  
1985 Feb.  
Box 57  
Budget Reform Bill  
1989 Apr.-Oct.  
Box 57  
Budget Summit Notes  
1987  
3 folders  
Box 57  
Budget Summit Final Agreement  
1987 Nov.  
Box 57  
Budget Summit Notes  
1990 May-Sept.  
10 folders  
Box 57  
White House Meeting Notes  
1983-1989  
5 folders  
Box 57  
Subseries b: Subcommittees on Defense and Military Construction  
1977-1988  
2 boxes, 2.5 linear ft.

Files for both subcommittees are combined because the files were maintained by the same individual, contain similar subject matter, and were kept in the same physical space. The folders are filed alphabetically under "Appropriations Bills," then chronologically by fiscal year.

The files for both the defense and military construction subcommittees of the House Appropriations Committee were maintained by minority staff assistant George Allen, and later by Charles (Chinch) Wollerton and by legislative assistant Patrick Larkin.

Materials in this series are typically correspondence from contractors, constituents, and government agencies, Dear Colleague letters, and internal memos, and especially reflect First District concerns. District defense industries from large General Electric and Smith & Wesson to small Kollmorgen sought Conte's support, as did local defense installations like Westover AFB. From national concerns like Arms Control, SDI ("Star Wars") and the MX Missile to First District controversy over noise from Westover Air Force Bases's C-5A transport planes or the proposed construction of two unpopular communications systems (one in Amherst, the other in Hawley). This series reveals Conte's interest in and influence over defense issues most significantly through the appropriations process.

AEGIS Ships, Naval Guided Missiles  
1987  
Box 58  
Anti-Satellite Defense Systems (A.S.A.T.)  
1985-1987  
Box 58  
Appropriations (Defense Authorization Acts)

14 folders  
Defense Appropriations, Subcommittee Hearings, Testimony, Questions, FY84  
1983

Box 58  
Defense Markup, Subcommittee, FY84  
1983  
Box 58  
Defense Authorization Act, FY85  
1984  
Box 58  
Defense Authorization Act, S. 1160, FY86  
1985  
Box 58  
Defense Authorization, Amendments, FY86  
1985 June  
Box 58  
H.R. 1748, Defense Authorization Act, FY88-89

7 folders  
Bill Material  
1987  
2 folders  
Box 58  
Amendments  
1987 Sept.-Oct.  
Box 58  
Dear Colleague Letters  
1987 Apr.-Apr.  
3 folders  
Box 58  
Conference Committee  
1987 Sept.-Dec.  
Box 58  
H.R. 4264, Defense Authorization Act FY89

2 folders  
Dear Colleague Correspondence  
1988  
Box 58  
Lobbying Correspondence  
1988  
Box 58  
Arms Control

15 folders  
Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty  
1987-1988  
Box 58  
Arms Control, General  
1987  
Box 58  
Arms Control, H.J.Res., Statements, Correspondence  
1980-1985  
Box 58  
Congressional Research Service Articles (ABM, SALT)  
1981-1982  
Box 58  
Nuclear Freeze

7 folders  
Comprehensive Act  
1985  
Box 58  
General Information  
1982-1984  
Box 58  
H.J. Res. 521, (SOC Bill), 97th Cong.

1982  
2 folders  
Box 58  
H.J. Res. 2, (SOC Bill), 98th Cong.  
1983  
Box 58  
H.R. 434, (SOC Bill), 98th Cong.  
1982-1983  
Box 58  
Nuclear Freeze Rally  
1983 Mar.  
Box 58  
Nuclear Test Ban, H.J.Res. 3  
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Subseries c: District of Columbia Subcommittee  
1982-1989  
1 box, 1.25 linear ft.

This series contains legislative materials relating to Conte's place on the District of Columbia Appropriations Subcommittee. Part of a group of appropriations subcommittee files maintained by Tim Shea, they have been segregated to reflect the work of the individual subcommittee. Although supplemental appropriations bills are all-encompassing, that is, not tied to individual subcommittees, supplemental issues relating only to District of Columbia appropriations have been included in this series.

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Subseries d: Subcommittee on Energy And Water  
1977-1991  
3 boxes, 3.75 linear ft.

The files relating to the Subcommittee on Energy and Water of the House Appropriations Committee contain materials relating to passage of specific appropriation bills and supplementals as well as to subjects of both one-time and ongoing interest. These subjects include the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), which provided federally funded employment through energy and water related projects and the Conte-sponsored "Buy American" provisions for government procurement contracts, particularly aimed at helping General Electric obtain contracts to provide generating equipment to hydroelectric plants. (Files related to JTPA can also be found in the L-HHS-ED Subcommittee files, Labor and Education subseries.) The appropriations bills are arranged chronologically by fiscal year and subject files follow in alphabetical order.

Also of interest are several files on individual hydroelectric projects, notably the Garrison project in North Dakota and the Dickey-Lincoln Lakes School project in northern New England, which illustrate Conte's efforts to balance clean energy production with the potentially devastating consequences of dam building to wetlands, conservation areas, and wildlife. Conte's dual concern for environmental and fiscal issues is also apparent in his opposition to the Clinch River breeder reactor and the Superconducting Super Collider (SSC) projects. Many of the projects overseen and funded by the Subcommittee on Energy and Water were once the province of the now defunct Subcommittee on Public Works. For this reason some material in these files,

generated during the latter part of the 1970s, may seem out of place here. Another issue outside the province of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water is the Synfuels debate. This Department of Energy issue relates to the Interior Subcommittee. Nevertheless, several folders of Synfuels material appear in this series.

In general, these files consist of materials relating directly to markup and passage of appropriations bills, including (but not limited to) floor statements, hearing materials, amendments, conference notes, staff memos and correspondence from colleagues, constituents and lobbying groups. Subject files contain correspondence of the types just mentioned, staff memos, newsclippings, and some printed materials from lobbying groups.

There is also material relating to First District projects funded by the energy and water appropriations bill in the Project/Grant Series.

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Subseries e: Subcommittee on Foreign Operations  
1976-1991

3 boxes, 3.75 linear ft.

The files in this series document Conte's role as ranking minority member of the House Appropriations Committee, his position as an ex officio member of the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, and his commitment to human rights.

Arranged alphabetically by folder title, the files include correspondence, memoranda, news clippings, and legislative reference material. Much of the correspondence, and most of the policy research, was conducted by Jim Fairchild, minority staff assistant, Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, 1980-1990; Bob Goudie, Conte's legislative assistant from 1983-1987, who was extensively involved in the formulation of Conte's policies regarding Central America; and Ed Gresser, legislative assistant to the Congressman in 1989.

Conte's interest in foreign affairs can be attributed to, in part, his service on the Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee in the 1960s. During that time he undertook a number of trips through Africa. (Files related to these subjects can be found in the Legislative Correspondence/Subject Files, Travel Files and Audio-Visual materials).

The files most often deal with problems within Africa, the Soviet Union, and Central American countries and cover a variety of issues including world hunger, human rights, refugees, international debt, trade and tariffs.

A large number of files in this series concern foreign aid appropriations. Other files concern human rights issues of interest and concern to Conte, unrelated to appropriations. Still others represent a synthesis of appropriations and human rights issues, such as those instances in which funding or aid is tied to human rights records. Of particular interest are the files on Conte's involvement in funding for the government of El Salvador and the Nicaraguan rebels. The Congressman often took positions on these issues that opposed the positions of the Republican administration. His commitment to fighting for human rights is demonstrated by his involvement in a number of cases concerning individuals such as Argentinean journalist Jacob Timmerman and ethnic groups such as Soviet Jewry and starving populations in Sub-Saharan Africa.

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Congressman Conte championed the interests of his district by seeking funding for First District projects in the appropriations phase, and represented those interests as an intermediary between constituents and the bureaucracy once a grant application was filed or a project under way.

The HUD subcommittee files document Conte's efforts, through his influence on the appropriations committee, to strengthen the economy of Western Massachusetts and to assist the elderly and low-income residents of Western Massachusetts through a myriad of housing and community development grants. Most of the files in this six box subseries relate to the appropriations of monies for programs such as Urban Development Action Grants (UDAG), Housing Development Action Grants (HODAG), Community Development Block Grants, funding for public works projects, housing for the elderly, and other HUD-related

grants.

The contents here include correspondence, memoranda, news clippings, legislative reference materials, notes, speeches, and federal grant applications. The files are arranged alphabetically by folder title. Most of the files are under the first town or city for which the project was intended. There are also several files relating to the annual HUD-IA appropriations bill.

As a long-time supporter of public housing, Conte was extensively involved in procuring federally funded, low-income housing projects and developments in his district. As a result, he often found himself in the position of being a mediator between low-income constituents in need of affordable housing and those constituents who were opposed to housing projects in their neighborhood. Towns most often mentioned are: Pittsfield, Holyoke, Northampton, Greenfield, and North Adams.

Congressman Conte's interest in the environment and his concern for the homeless are evident in his legislative and constituent correspondence regarding the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), two of the several independent agencies within the HUD subcommittee's jurisdiction. There are several files regarding EPA projects in the First District, most of which relate to water pollution control and wastewater treatment. Other independent agencies represented in these files include the Veterans Administration, NASA, and the National Science Foundation.

The staff members most frequently represented in correspondence and memoranda are Gayl Mileszko and Mary Silveira, with assistance from Peter Gossens, James Ogsbury and James Kulikowski, all minority staff assistants.

Researchers should note that many subjects are to be found in a mixture of Appropriations Bills, Independent Agency, and First District Town or City files. This is due to the fact that many projects, such as a sewage treatment plant, may be requested by a town, funded by a HUD grant, and monitored by the EPA.

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The Interior files are arranged with five boxes of appropriation bills first, followed by eight boxes of subject files. The bills files have been arranged by fiscal year. Within a given fiscal year an Interior Appropriations bill can be tracked from bureau and departmental requests through subcommittee and full committee markup, to floor action and conference committee. The amount of information available within a given fiscal year varies considerably. The subject files are arranged alphabetically.

The subject files reveal Conte's interest in environmental and conservation issues. Subjects of national importance include Antarctic preservation, wetlands acquisition, prevention of development of Matagorda Island, Texas, the last untouched barrier island and home of the whooping crane, and other National Wildlife Refuges, and the North American Waterfowl Conservation Act. Issues more specifically related to Interior concerns in Massachusetts' First District include the files on the restoration of the Atlantic salmon and striped bass to the Connecticut River through projects like the Northeast Anadromous Fish Lab in Turners Falls and the Sunderland holding station, obtaining federal Clean Water Act funds for Massachusetts, and Appalachian Trail relocation plans for the Berkshire County towns of Tyringham and Sheffield. For his many years of hard work and dedication to preserving the environment he was honored by many environmental organizations including the Sierra Club and the Audubon Society.

Despite Conte's interest in environmental and interior issues, he served only as an ex officio member of the Subcommittee on Interior, a position granted by his status as ranking minority member.

In general, these files consist of materials relating directly to markup and passage of appropriations bills, including (but not limited to) floor statements, hearing materials, amendments, conference notes, staff memos and correspondence from colleagues, constituents and lobbying groups. Subject files contain correspondence of the types just mentioned, staff memos, and newsclippings. From 1985-1991, the Interior Subcommittee files were maintained by Tim Shea, minority staff assistant for the Interior subcommittee and primary staff member represented in these files.

Although supplemental appropriations bills are all-encompassing, that is, not tied to individual subcommittees, supplemental issues relating only to Interior matters have been included in this series.

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Conte's concern for the environment is well documented in the Acid Rain subseries of the Interior Subcommittee files. The files were maintained primarily by minority staff assistant, Tim Shea. Divided into legislative (bill materials arranged chronologically) and subject (arranged alphabetically) subseries, the files document Conte's ongoing interest in combatting acid rain. Writing and cosponsoring both clean air and clean water legislation for over a decade, Conte established himself as a congressional leader in the fight against acid rain.

A key issue here, documented to some extent in the Department of Energy Appropriations files and the Energy and Water Subcommittee files as well, is funding for the U.S. Synthetic Fuels Board. Initiated partly to study means of producing non-polluting (non-acid rain-causing) fuels, Conte was soon convinced that it was a waste of tax dollars and sought to rescind its funding. Files on the Synfuels successor, or as Conte referred to it, the "son of Synfuels" the Clean Coal Program are also covered in this series. Seeing the Clean Coal Program as an example of corporate welfare, Conte believed clean coal technologies should be developed in the private sector. Without restrictions on acid rain-causing emissions, Conte viewed the program as simply an expensive replacement for emissions control legislation.

Otherwise, the subject files here generally provide background material to legislative bills.

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"Darkening Skies," Sierra Club, Clean Air Act Info.

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Subseries 3g-2: Interior Subcommittee, Department of Energy, (DOE)

1979-1990

3 boxes, 3.75 linear ft.

Though the appropriations for the Department of Energy are determined by two house subcommittees, Interior and Energy and Water, the files here generally relate more to the Interior subcommittee.

Principal subjects within this series include the home heating oil crisis of the late 1980s, outer continental shelf leasing and drilling moratoria (which Conte favored) and the maintenance of the strategic petroleum reserve. Some information on the U.S. Synthetic Fuels Board, a favorite target of Conte's, can be found in this series, but most of this information is located in the Acid Rain subseries.

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Subseries 3g-3: Interior Subcommittee, Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (MBCC)  
1963-1988  
1 box, 1.25 linear ft.

The Migratory Bird Conservation Commission was established in 1934, its mission to acquire, through the revenue raised from the sale of federal duck stamps, wetlands around the country to be designated as national waterfowl refuges. Appointed by President Johnson in 1965, Conte served for 25 years on the Commission's board, the longest time for any member.

Because the commission works closely with the Interior Department and because there are Interior Department documents interspersed throughout the MBCC files, this small group of files has been placed with Subcommittee on Interior files. The one box of MBCC files consists of a small assortment of program agendas, minutes, correspondence, hearing testimonies, and Interior Department press releases.

#### Migratory Bird Conservation Commission

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Subseries 3g-4: Interior Subcommittee, General Subject Tim Shea

1983-1990

4 boxes

The files are arranged alphabetically by topic.

The four boxes of files reflect Tim Shea's work as legislative assistant for Conte in 1983-1984 and minority staff assistant on the Interior, Treasury-Postal-Service-General Government, and District of Columbia Subcommittees, 1985-1990. There are several files relating to the Smithsonian Institution, documenting Conte's position on the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian, 1979-1991, and Tim Shea's role as staff liaison to the Board.

The majority of the files represent Interior-related activities, with particular emphasis on environmental research, clean-up programs, and wildlife conservation. The files also include an assortment of files relating to national issues or Conte sponsored legislation.

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1981-1985  
2 folders  
Box 99  
Native American Museum, S. 1722  
1988 May  
3 folders  
Box 99  
Prospectus, Five-year, Fiscal Year  
1980-1984  
Box 99  
Prospectus, Five-year, Fiscal Year  
1986-1991  
Box 99  
Prospectus, Five-year, Fiscal Year  
1991-1995  
Box 99  
Quadrangle Project  
1981  
Box 99  
Remarks on S. Dillon Ripley  
1984  
Box 99  
Renwick Gallery of Contemporary Crafts  
1986 Mar.-June  
Box 99  
Snow/Hiler Resolution  
1988  
Box 99  
Stump Speeches, Talking Points  
1984  
2 folders  
Box 99  
SPM Manufacturing vs. Governmental Services Administration  
1987  
2 folders  
Box 99  
Tim Shea Personal  
1983-1987  
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Tim Shea Travel Authorizations  
1985  
Box 99  
Silverware Case, Reed & Barton  
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Tongass Timber Reform, H.R. 1516  
1987  
Box 99  
Toxic Waste Clean-up, Superfund  
1985  
Box 99  
Tributes  
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Box 99  
University of Massachusetts, National Marine Fisheries Agreement  
1987  
Box 99  
Used Car Rule, F.T.C., H.Con.Res. 178  
1981  
Box 99  
Ware Fire Department  
1990  
Box 99  
Water Infrastructure Loan Program, H.R. 1644  
1983  
Box 99

Water Resources Research Act, H.R. 2911

1983

Box 99

Wildlife Refuge System

1988

Box 99

Windfall Profits Tax, Oil Companies

1981-1982

Box 99

Subseries h: Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Subcommittee

1981-1990

5 linear ft.

Conte was an outspoken proponent of federal funding for education. He successfully fought against proposed spending cuts year after year to ensure adequate student loans and grants to college students and vocational and adult education grants. The Labor and Education subcommittee files were maintained by minority staff assistant James Kulikowski and later by Peter Gossens and document only a very small portion of Conte's significant achievements in education and labor related appropriations. Additional information on education and labor issues can be found in the Legislative Subject/Correspondence series. Unlike some other Appropriations Subcommittee files, a separate legislative subseries for Appropriations bills has not been created. Instead, these folders have been filed alphabetically under "Appropriations Bills," then chronologically by fiscal year.

Aside from the material dealing with Appropriations bill markup and passage per se the salient subject matter here is First District educational grant proposals. The Holyoke Magnet Middle School and North Adams State College TRIO (programs for students from disadvantaged backgrounds) Grants are two noteworthy examples of Conte's efforts to obtain grant monies for his district. There is a small file on the proposed Polymer Science Center at the University of Massachusetts and files on other grants and programs; information regarding default rates for the Guaranteed Student Loans program and the successful passage of a Conte sponsored bill to increase handicapped education funds for Massachusetts. There is some information on the Job Corps and Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA); additional material on the JTPA exists in the Energy and Water files. (II, 3d).

Conte was also concerned about shortages in the availability of well-trained healthcare workers and provided program funding to aid individuals seeking an education in the health sciences and the institutions that provide the training. The files concerning his efforts in this area are in the part 2. HHS subcommittee files.

In general, these files consist of materials relating directly to markup and passage of appropriations bills, including floor statements, hearing materials, amendments, conference notes, staff memos and correspondence from colleagues, constituents and lobbying groups. Subject files contain correspondence of the types just mentioned, staff memos, and newsclippings.

#### Part 1: Labor and Education Files

ACTION/VISTA

1990 Apr.-1990 May

Box 100

ACTION Waiver, H.R. 1312

1989 Jan.-June

Box 100

Adams Print Works

undated

Box 100

American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AACSU), Ed Elmendorf Candidacy for President of 1991 Jan.

Box 100

American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN)

1990 Mar.-Apr.

Box 100

Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), Issue Book

1990

4 folders

Box 100

Amherst College, President's Report

1989 Mar.

Box 100

Appointments, Gerry/Morrissey, Assistant Sec. of Education Position

1988 Nov.-1989 Feb.

Box 100  
Apprenticeship Training, Bureau of  
1981-1984  
Box 100  
Appropriations

23 folders  
FY83 Supplemental, Backup Information  
undated  
Box 100  
FY87 Supplemental, H.R. 1827, LHHS Issues

4 folders  
Jan-Mar 1987

Box 100  
Feb-Apr 1987

Box 100  
Apr-Aug 1987

Box 100  
Amendments  
1987 Mar.  
Box 100  
FY88 Continuing Res., H.J.Res. 395, LHHS Chapter

3 folders  
Oct-Dec 1987

Box 100  
House/Senate Amendments  
1987 Nov.-Dec.  
Box 100  
Administration Position/Conference  
1987 Dec.  
Box 100  
FY88 Emergency Supplemental, H.R. 5026

5 folders  
Bill/Report  
1988 Mar.-June  
Box 100  
Administration Position  
1988 Mar.-July  
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Amendments  
1988 July  
Box 100  
Conference  
1988 July-Aug.  
Box 100  
Estimates, Justifications, Amendments  
1988 July-Aug.  
Box 100  
FY89 LHHS Appropriations Bill, H.R. 4783

Floor Statement  
undated

Box 100  
Memos re:  
1988 May-Aug.  
Box 100  
Administration Position  
1988 Aug.-Sept.  
Box 100  
Summaries  
1988 Aug.-Sept.  
Box 100  
Report Language  
1988  
Box 100  
FY90 Budget Requests  
1989  
H.R. 2900, Veto, n.d.  
ca.1989  
Box 100  
FY90 Supplemental, H.R.4404  
1990  
Box 100  
FY91 Education Bill, H.R. 5115  
1990  
Box 100  
FY91 Continuing Resolution, H.J. Res. 655  
1999 Sept.  
Box 100  
Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Massachusetts  
1988-1989  
Box 100  
Association for the Support of Human Service (ASHS)

3 folders  
Education Grant  
1984 Mar.-May  
Box 100  
Westfield  
1985  
Box 100  
Westfield  
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Box 100  
Attention Deficit Disorder

Box 100

SEE: Children with ADD

Bay State Skills and Automated Systems  
1983 Dec.-1984 May  
Box 100  
Berkshire Community College, Clippings  
1988-1990  
Box 100  
Berkshire School  
1990  
Box 100  
Bilingual Education, EDACs/Lesley  
1984-1986  
Box 100  
Black Lung, ESA, FY86  
1985  
Box 100  
Black Lung, Congressional Research Service Reports  
1981-1985  
Box 100  
Boston College

4 folders  
Library Loan  
1979-1990  
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Box 100  
Peripatology Training Center  
1983  
Box 100  
Boston University/Boston Schools  
1989  
Box 100  
Bricklayers  
1990  
Box 100  
Candidacy Announcement, Record, n.d.  
ca.1988  
Box 100  
Captioning [for the Hearing Impaired]  
1984-1990  
2 folders  
Box 100  
Lauro F. Cavazos, Secretary of Education, Visit to Western MA  
1990 Oct.  
Box 100  
Child Care  
1989-1990  
Box 100  
Children with Attention Deficit Disorders  
1989-1991  
2 folders  
Box 100  
Christenson, Sally, Budget Director, Dept. of Education  
1988-1989  
Box 101  
Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)  
1989-1990  
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Civil Rights Act of 1990  
1990  
Box 101  
Clark University  
1990  
Box 101  
College Facilities Loans  
1984-1990  
Box 101  
Community Colleges  
1990 Sept.  
Box 101  
Conway School of Landscape Design  
1988 Apr.  
Box 101  
Coolidge Library, Northampton  
1986  
Box 101  
Coughlin Amendment  
1989 Apr.-May  
Box 101  
Critical Languages and Area Studies Consortium  
1989-1991  
Box 101  
Davis-Bacon Act  
1981-1990  
2 folders  
Box 101  
Drugs

1989 Sept.-Oct.  
Box 101  
Easthampton Schools, Grant Application  
1990 Nov.-Dec.  
Box 101  
Economic Policy Institutes, Education Funding Report  
1990 Feb.  
Box 101  
Education Amendments of 1984, H.R. 11  
1984 May-Aug.  
Box 101  
Education Excellence Act  
1990  
Box 101  
Education Funding For Massachusetts FY90, n.d.  
ca.1989  
Box 101  
Education Tax Issues  
1984-1989  
Box 101  
Emmanuel College  
1986-1990  
Box 101  
Employment and Training [ET] Choices  
1987  
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SEE: Jobs

Even Start Program  
1990 Jan.-Feb.  
Box 101  
Family Matinee Magazine/Even Start Program & Grant  
1988-1989  
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FICA and College Employees  
1990  
Box 101  
Flexibility, VT Rep. Smith's Bill  
1989 Sept.-1990 Jan.  
Box 101  
Foreign Language Training  
1898 Nov.-1990 Feb.  
Box 101  
Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE)  
1990 Aug.  
Box 101  
General Electric, Plant Closings, Training Center  
1990  
Box 101  
Geography Education  
1990 Feb.  
Box 101  
Governor's Summit  
1990 Mar.  
Box 101  
Gramm-Rudman  
1990  
Box 101  
Grants and Aid, First District  
1983  
Box 101  
Grants, FY86, General  
1986 Jan.-July  
Box 101  
Grants, Education  
1990 Aug.  
Box 101  
Grants

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SEE ALSO: individual institutions

Greenfield Community College  
1985-1989  
Box 101  
Guaranteed Student Loans (GSL)

5 folders  
Default Bill, H.R. 4986  
1988 July-Aug.  
Box 101  
Defaults, Palavin Study  
1990 Jan.-Mar.  
Box 101  
Default Reports and Tables  
1989  
Box 101  
Testimony on Defaults  
1988-1989  
Box 101  
NATTS (GSL Programs)  
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SEE ALSO: Student Aid, Massachusetts

Gulluni, Frank, Regional Dir., Mass. Employment and Training  
1983-1989  
3 folders  
Box 101  
Hampshire College  
1989  
Box 101  
Handicapped, Education for, H.R. 4043, SOC Bill

3 folders  
Mass. Dept. of Education Correspondence  
1985 Aug.-1986 Feb.  
Box 101  
Reports and Testimony  
1985 Oct.-1986 Mar.  
Box 101  
Bill Materials  
1985 July-1986 Aug.  
Box 101  
Handicapped, Education for, Amendments  
1990 May  
Box 101  
Harvard University, Technology Center  
1987 Dec.-1988 Jan.  
Box 101  
Higher Education in Massachusetts  
1984  
Box 101  
Hillcrest Educational Centers  
1990 May  
Box 101  
Holyoke Care Center Grant  
1989 Oct.-1990 June  
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Holyoke Chamber of Commerce, Grant  
1984 Oct.  
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Holyoke Community College, Grants and Programs  
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Holyoke Community College Cooperative Education Grant  
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Box 101  
Holyoke Library Literacy Grant  
1989 Nov.-1990 May  
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Holyoke Public Schools

11 folders  
Bilingual Grant Application  
1990  
Box 101  
Chapter 1 Allocations  
1990  
Box 101  
Dean Technical, Grant  
1990  
Box 101  
Dean Technical, Machine Action Project  
1990  
Box 101  
Dean Technical, Brand Correspondence  
1990  
Box 101  
Loans  
1983-1984  
Box 101  
Magnet Middle School, Grants and Correspondence

5 folders  
Box 101  
Impact Aid

3 folders  
Bourne, Massachusetts  
1984-1986  
Box 101  
Highland Falls  
1984 Apr.-June  
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Cong. Jerry Lewis  
1984  
Box 101  
Innovation in Education Fund, Grants  
1990  
Box 101  
Italian American Foundation  
1990  
Box 101  
Jobs Bill, H.R. 3029  
1989  
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Job Corps  
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5 folders  
Centers, Expansion  
1990  
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First District  
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Box 102  
Job Corps/JTPA Letters to Constituents

1984-1985  
Box 102  
Job Corps Meeting  
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Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA)  
1989 Apr.-Aug.  
4 folders  
Berkshire County Worker Assistance Grant  
1989 Mar.-May  
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Pittsfield  
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Training and Assistance Act (TAA)  
1987-1991  
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John Dewey Academy, Grant  
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Jokes  
undated  
Box 102  
(Dept. of) Labor

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Leases in the District  
1990 May  
Box 102  
Massachusetts  
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Region I Reorganization  
1990 May  
Box 102  
Lee Pre-School Case  
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Letters to Constituents re: Education  
1983-1986  
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Labor Letters, FY85

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Literacy, H.R. 3123  
1989  
Box 102  
Massachusetts Career Development Institutes (MCDI)

3 folders  
Adult Literacy, Grant  
1990 Mar.  
Box 102  
Bilingual Education  
1984 Feb.-May  
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Geriatric Authority  
1990 Feb.  
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Massachusetts Education  
1988-1990  
Box 102  
Massachusetts Elementary Education  
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Massachusetts Institutes of Technology  
1987-1989  
Box 102  
Massachusetts Schools, Public Education  
1985-1987  
Box 102  
Math is Radical Program  
1989 Nov.-1990 Feb.  
Box 102  
McCormick Institutes for Public Affairs  
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Box 102  
Memos, (Mostly from Mark Weston to SOC)  
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Moral Education  
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Mount Holyoke College  
1987-1990  
Box 102  
William Natcher  
1981-1987  
Box 102  
National Assessment of Educational Progress Governing Board  
1990  
Box 102  
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards  
1990  
Box 102  
National Education Association (NEA), Endorsement, Questionnaire  
1988  
Box 102  
National Service Corps, H.R. 4330  
1990  
Box 102  
New York Public Library  
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Box 102  
Newsclippings, District, Education & Labor Issues  
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North Adams State College

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Title III  
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Box 102  
TRIO Grant  
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TRIO Grant  
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Box 102  
TRIO Grant  
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Northeastern University  
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Northeast Institutes of Industrial Technology, MA  
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Northfield Mount Hermon School, TRIO Grant  
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Older Worker Employer Challenge  
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Overview Hearing  
1988  
Box 102  
Parental Leave Act  
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Box 102  
Parker, Walter, SE Status for  
1990-1991  
Box 102  
Pell Grants

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[SEE: Guaranteed Student Loans, H.R. 4986](#)

Pittsfield BTEP  
1984  
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Plainville Casting Company  
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Points of Order  
1981-1982  
Box 102  
Preschool Education  
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Public Service Bill, H.R. 2544  
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Puerto Rico Proposal, Dept. of Labor  
1986-1987  
Box 102  
Reading  
1990  
Box 102  
Reading is Fundamental Program (RAF)  
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Box 102  
Regional Educational Labs, n.d.  
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Box 102  
Requests, Member, Education Issues, FY91  
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Requests From Organizations, Education Issues, FY91  
1990 May-July  
Box 102  
Restructuring Schools  
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Box 102  
Rochester Institute of Technology, Awards Ceremony  
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Box 102  
Roukema, Student Aid Amendment  
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Rural Economic Development  
1989 Sept.-1990 Mar.  
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Box 102  
Saint Hyacinth's Seminary  
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School Counselors, H.R. 3970  
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School Health  
1989 July-1990 Feb.  
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Science and Math  
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Box 102  
Sequester, Education Effects  
1989 Nov.  
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Simon's Rock College  
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Smith College/Clarke School for the Deaf  
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Box 102  
Smith College  
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Springfield Technical Community College, Grant  
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Stonehill College, John Martin Library, H.R. 4244  
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Strikes, Assorted  
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Box 103  
Student Aid, Massachusetts  
1988-1989  
Box 103  
Student Aid, Mass. and First District Grant/Loan Figures  
1981-1988  
Box 103  
Student Right to Know, H.R. 1454  
1990 May  
Box 103  
Student Aid

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SEE: Guaranteed Student Loans

Sullivan, Edward, Correspondence  
1986-1990  
Box 103  
Supreme Court Video, Jerry Colbert  
1983-1989  
Box 103  
Survival Training and Employment Preparation Skills (STEPS) Program, Margaret Spencer  
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Box 103  
Taft Institutes, H.R. 3315  
1989 Sept.-Nov.  
Box 103  
Teacher Merit Pay, CRS Reports  
1983-1984  
Box 103  
Technical Assistance For Parent Programs (TAPP), Martha Ziegler  
1990  
Box 103

Testing (SATs, ACTs), Newsclippings

1987

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TRIO, 4.2% Issue

1990 Mar.-May

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TRIO

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Box 103

TRIO

Box 103

SEE: Individual Institutions, esp. [North Adams State College](#) and [Northfield Mount Hermon School](#)

Underachievers

undated

Box 103

Unemployment Benefits, Mass.

1983 Dec.-1984 Dec.

Box 103

Unger and Associates, Collections

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Box 103

United States English, Anti-Bilingual Materials

1984

Box 103

University of Massachusetts Amherst

1982-1989

Adult Liberal Arts Proposal

1989

Box 103

Clinical Teacher Training, Grant Proposal

1987 Mar.

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Co-Operative Education Grant Information

1983 Dec.-1984 Feb.

Box 103

Library Grant

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Math, Science Technology Project

1984

Box 103

Patricia Roberts Harris Fellowship, Grant Application

1987

Box 103

Polymer Science Center

1983

Box 103

University Without Walls and Berkshire Community College Collaborative: Women's Bureau

1986-1987

Box 103

University of Massachusetts Boston

1984 May-July

Box 103

Very Special Arts, Arts For the Handicapped, Newsclippings

1990

Box 103

Vigneron, Joan E., Science Teaching

1987

Box 103

Vocational Education, H.R. 7

1989-1990

Box 103

Washington Center for Internships

1988-1990

Box 103

Washington Library Consortium  
1989 Apr.  
Box 103  
Westfield State College

4 folders  
Drug Prevention Program  
1987 May  
Box 103  
Holyoke Proposal  
1990 May  
Box 103  
Title III  
1985-1986  
Box 103  
SOC Addresses and Invitations  
1987-1989  
Box 103  
Williams College  
1985-1991  
Box 103  
Yost Award, American Association of University Professors  
1981-1990  
Box 103  
Youth Employment Opportunity Wage Act  
1984 May-1985 Mar.  
Box 103  
Youth Service (National Service)  
1989 Jan.-Apr.  
2 folders  
Box 103  
Subseries h: Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Subcommittee  
1981-1990  
15 boxes, 18.75 linear ft.

In 1971 when Conte actively sought and obtained a seat on the subcommittee on Health, Education and Welfare (and in so doing relinquished his seats on the subcommittees on Foreign Operations and Treasury, Postal Service) he commented that "health, education and welfare deals with the quality of our lives and will play an even stronger role as the country prepares to move from a war economy to peacetime pursuits."

Eight years later Conte became ranking minority member of the House Appropriations Committee and, by his choice, ranking minority member of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (as it became known in 1980).

The HHS files consist of 15 boxes of materials which include correspondence from agency officials, fellow members of congress, constituents, community organizations, lobbying organizations and non-profit agencies and foundations; speeches; floor statements; memoranda; and background information.

Conte focused a great deal of his energy and attention on the L-HHS-ED subcommittee appropriations process, becoming a recognized leader in national health policy and social service programs. He consistently fought successful battles against attempts by the administration to dismantle and cutback on the number of HHS programs and was effective in reordering spending priorities to benefit these programs.

His emphasis on funding for biomedical research is revealed in the files on the National Institutes of Health, Cancer, and Mental Health that document his work to increase funding for research into diseases such as cystic fibrosis, diabetes, arthritis, birth defects, AIDS, cancer, and Alzheimer's. His belief in the need for more research into mental illness and neuroscience is revealed in the files pertaining to a resolution he sponsored to designate the 1990s as the "Decade of the Brain." Issues affecting the elderly and the poor are documented in the files on Medicare, Medicaid, catastrophic health care, and various outreach programs. Issues affecting children and adolescents are well documented here with files on legislation concerning child abuse and runaway youths, teenage mothers, infant mortality rates, Child Welfare Resource Centers, lead poisoning prevention programs, and maternal and child health programs.

The voluminous files on the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program are testimony to his strong advocacy for continued full funding of this program amid massive budgets cuts during the Reagan administration and gave him the nickname "father of low-income fuel assistance."

The abortion and family planning files reflect his anti-abortion stance while also documenting his major

support for federal funding of family planning facilities. There is much correspondence from both pro-choice and anti-abortion lobbyists and family planning center administrators. His active opposition to repeated efforts to eliminate funding to family planning centers earned him several awards over the years, among them a distinguished public service award in 1981 from the National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Council.

## Part 2: Health and Human Services Files (HHS)

Abortion  
1977-1991  
22 folders

SEE ALSO: Family Planning

General  
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14 folders  
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Clippings  
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Correspondence  
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Floor Remarks  
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Speeches  
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Voting Record on Appropriations  
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Adolescent Family Life Program  
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Advocacy Network Newsletter  
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SEE ALSO: Medicaid/Medicare

Disease Prevention and Health Promotion  
1987  
Box 104  
Elder Services of Berkshire County, Speech  
1988  
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Funding, FY 1979-1980 & FY 1987-1988

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Holyoke Senior Service Corp.  
1985  
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Issues  
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Medical Care  
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Northampton, Highland Valley Office of Human Development Services  
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Older Americans Act  
1988  
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Agent Orange, Health Effects  
1984  
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Aging, Administration of  
1983-1986  
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Newsclippings  
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AIDS  
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Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
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Alcohol, Drug Abuse, Mental Health Administration  
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5 folders  
Box 104  
Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration  
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3 folders  
Box 104  
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2 folders  
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Correspondence on Appropriations Issues  
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American Academy of Family Physicians  
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American Cancer Society, Correspondence  
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American Dental Association  
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General  
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Speech  
undated  
Box 105  
American Diabetes Association, Correspondence  
1990  
Box 105  
American Federation for Clinical Research, Award & Speech  
1988  
Box 105  
American Foundation for the Blind  
1986  
Box 105  
American Health Care Assoc., Massachusetts Federation of Nursing Homes, Inc.  
1987  
Box 105  
American Liver Foundation  
1987  
Box 105  
American Lung Association  
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American Public Welfare Association, speech  
1987  
Box 105  
Appropriations Bill, H.R. 4783, FY 1989

Box 105  
Appropriations Correspondence  
1988-1990  
2 folders  
FY 1988

Box 105  
Budget requests  
1989-1990  
Box 105  
Appropriations for L-HHS-Ed  
1989-1990  
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H.R. 3566, FY 1990

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H.R. 5257, FY 1991

Box 105  
Area Health Education Center, Correspondence  
1982-1989  
3 folders  
Box 105  
Association for the Support of Human Services Inc., Correspondence  
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Autism  
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Box 105  
Awards for SOC's Labor-HHS-Ed efforts  
1968-1989  
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Belchertown State Hospital  
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Berkshire Cholesterol Countdown, award and speech  
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Berkshire Community Action Council, speech  
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Biomedical Research  
1985-1987  
3 folders  
Arthroscopy Assoc., Speech at North Adams, MA  
1985-1986  
Box 105  
Medical Simulation Foundation, Inc.  
1986-1987  
Box 105  
Biopure, Blood Substitute, Correspondence  
1989  
Box 105  
Blacks in Medicine, The Morehouse School of Medicine  
ca.1985  
Box 105  
Boston University Medical Center  
1986-1988  
2 folders  
General  
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Dedication of Medical Research Center  
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Box 105  
Brightside for Families and Children  
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Adolescent Pregnancy Grant  
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Assorted Grants  
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Speech & Grant Support  
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Brightwood Development Corp., Community Service Grant, Springfield, MA  
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Breast Cancer  
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Budget Reconciliation, FY 1989

2 folders  
Box 105  
Cambodian American Assoc. of Hampden County, Refugee Mutual Assistance Association  
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Box 105  
Cape Cod Hospital  
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Capitol Associates, speech  
1988  
Box 105  
Child Abuse and Runaway Youth  
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Conference Report

Box 105  
Correspondence  
1983-1984  
Box 105  
Federal Register  
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Newsclippings  
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Child Care  
1983-1988  
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4 boxes, 5 linear ft.

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Rural Development, Agriculture and Related Agencies files (hereafter Agriculture files) primarily relate to appropriations bills for individual fiscal years, as well as the so-called "Farm Bills" of 1985 and 1990. These bills set federal fiscal policy on agriculture for five-year cycles. The agriculture files were administered by House Appropriations minority staff assistants Gayl Mileszko and Bob Gibson.

Of particular interest in this series are a succession of subsidy limitation bills and amendments sponsored by Conte and others which attempted to curb large payments to agricultural producers, especially producers of honey and sugar. Files document Conte's vehement opposition to the beekeeper indemnity program. Conte was in the forefront of the battle over the wetlands reserve measures (the so-called "Swampbuster" provisions) of the 1985 and 1990 Farm Bills. Some "Swampbuster" material can also be found in the Interior Subcommittee Series under "Wetlands Acquisition and Preservation." First District and Massachusetts issues in the Agriculture Files include cranberry juice labelling, and the Integrated Pest Management program at Hampshire College.

In general, these files consist of materials relating directly to markup and passage of appropriations bills, including (but not limited to) floor statements, hearing materials, amendments, conference notes, staff memos, and correspondence from colleagues, constituents, and lobbying groups. Subject files contain correspondence of the types just mentioned, staff memos, newsclippings, and some printed materials from lobbying groups.

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Subseries j: Subcommittee on Transportation

1973-1990

4 boxes, 5 linear ft.

The Subcommittee on Transportation subseries documents Conte's long-time advocacy for efficient, reliable rail transportation systems for both freight and passenger service as well as low-cost mass transportation systems for urban areas. Included in the four boxes are correspondence, memoranda, news clippings, speeches, legislative drafts, reference material, and statements. The bulk of materials in this series span the dates 1982-1989; however, the "Railroad" files contain documents for as far back as 1973.

The largest group of files in this subseries is the "Railroads" file. Of particular interest to Conte were the Northeast Corridor rail project; the Montrealer line that traveled through Amherst; the Berkshire Scenic line; and the development of high-speed rail service. The Railroad files contain mostly constituent correspondence. Other correspondents include members of Congress and Federal agency officials mostly from the Interstate Commerce Commission, Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Railway Administration, and the Office of the Secretary of Transportation. Jeffrey Jacobs, minority staff assistant for the Subcommittee on Transportation from 1983-1987, maintained the bulk of these files.

Within the files on railroads is a group of files on Guilford Transportation Industries. Guilford owned Maine Central, Boston and Maine, and the Delaware and Hudson railroads, which were plagued by labor disputes, safety violations, and service complaints which adversely affected workers, employers and shippers in Mr. Conte's district over a period of years. Extensive records on Guilford were maintained by Mr. Conte's staff revealing his repeated intervention on behalf of his constituents.

Files pertaining to the Coast Guard user fee contains constituent correspondence, with unusually emotional tone. Although Conte was committed to full funding for the Coast Guard, he was unwilling to provide that funding at the cost of increasing the budget deficit. His solution was to propose a user fee to be paid annually by boaters who rely on the Coast Guard's services. This proposal generated an outcry of protest from boaters, nationally and locally. In spite of the unpopularity of this measure with a very vocal group of voters, Conte attempted (unsuccessfully) to pass his user fee year after year, from 1986 to 1989.

The correspondence in the files provides the researcher with interesting examples of correspondence received by members of Congress, and illustrates Conte's willingness to pursue policy objectives in the face of substantial voter opposition. The Coast Guard files were maintained separately by the office staff, suggesting the importance of this issue.

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5 boxes, 6.25 linear ft.

Although not as extensive as the Interior Appropriations files, the five boxes of Treasury, Postal Service and General Government (hereafter T/PO) appropriations files are arranged similarly with Appropriation bills first followed by subject files and were also maintained by minority staff assistant Tim Shea. The appropriations bills are arranged chronologically by fiscal year. Within a given fiscal year a T/PO Appropriations bill can be tracked from bureau and departmental requests through subcommittee and full committee markup, to floor action and conference committee. The amount of information available within a given fiscal year varies

considerably.

Although supplemental appropriations bills are all-encompassing, that is, not tied to individual subcommittees, supplemental issues relating only to Treasury and Post Office matters are included in this series.

Subject files are arranged alphabetically. Federal agencies represented in the files include the Bureau of Customs; Drug Enforcement Agency; Postal Service; National Archives; National Endowment for the Humanities. There is a file on Conte's attempt to acquire funding through the General Services Administration appropriations bill for the Calvin Coolidge Archives in the Forbes Library, Northampton, and the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in the Boston area.

The subseries General Subject Files (Series 3g-4) kept by Tim Shea, contains some T/PO related information as well.

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Office of Personnel Management, Congressional Budget Justification Report, FY 1990  
1989 Jan.  
Box 130  
Floor Action, SOC Statement  
1989 July  
Box 130  
Sec. 89, Non-discrimination  
1989 July  
Box 130  
Government Services Administration Amendments

3 folders  
Boston Court House  
1989 Feb.  
Box 130  
District of Columbia Leasing  
1989 July  
Box 130  
Public Buildings Fund  
1989 June  
Box 130  
Rules  
1989 July  
Box 130  
Conference Committee  
1989 Aug.-Oct.  
Box 130  
Amendments

3 folders  
House/Senate Proposed Amendments  
1989 Sept.  
Box 130  
IRS Center, Memphis, TN  
1988 June  
Box 130  
Vice President's Residence, n.d.  
ca.1989  
Box 130  
Motions  
1989 Oct.  
Box 130  
Drug Bill  
1989 Sept.-1990 Jan.  
Box 130  
T/PO Supplemental Appropriations FY90

2 folders  
Drug Strategy Appropriations  
1989 July-Sept.  
Box 130  
H.R. 4404, Postal Amendment

1990 May  
Box 130  
T/PO Appropriations Bill FY91

3 folders  
Subcommittee Hearings

2 folders  
General Services Administration Testimony  
1990 Feb.  
Box 130  
Treasury Department Testimony  
1990 Feb.  
Box 130  
General Services Administration Construction  
1989 Dec.-1990 June  
Box 130  
Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Bureau

2 folders  
Alcohol Import Regulations  
1986 Feb.-Oct.  
Box 130  
Wine & Beer Advertising Ban  
1985 Feb.  
Box 130  
Archives (NARA/NHPRC)

3 folders  
Records Preservation and Management, H.R. 3987  
1983 Sept.  
Box 130  
National Archives Administration, H.R. 3987  
1984 July  
Box 130  
NHPRC, FY87  
1986 May-July  
Box 130  
Calvin Coolidge Collection, Forbes Library, Northampton, MA  
1987  
Box 130  
Combined Federal Campaign Charitie

4 folders  
Office of Personnel Management  
1984 May-June  
Box 130  
Office of Personnel Management  
1987  
Box 130  
Supplemental Appropriations FY86  
1985 Sept.-1986 May  
2 folders  
Box 130  
Critical Materials Council  
1985 July-Oct.  
Box 130  
Customs

10 folders  
Authorizing Legislation, FY85  
1984 May

Box 130  
Consolidation Plans, FY85  
1983 Nov.-Feb.  
Box 130  
Crime Control Act  
1984 May-Oct.  
Box 130  
Duluth, MN Customs Problem  
1984 May-Oct.  
Box 130  
Import Specialists  
1984 Mar.  
Box 130  
Inspector General, Linda Gibbs Case  
1989-1990  
Box 130  
Personnel Amendment (SOC)  
1984 May-June  
Box 130  
Printed Materials, Background  
1983-1986  
Box 130  
Secret Service  
1984 Mar.-Sept.  
Box 130  
Westfield, MA, Import Facility  
1984 Dec.-1985 Jan.  
Box 130  
Drugs and Drug Enforcement

4 folders  
Drug Initiative, FY87  
1986  
Box 130  
Drug testing, Federal, FY88  
1987  
Box 130  
Organized Crime  
1985 Feb.-Mar.  
Box 130  
White House Conference, "Drug Free America,"  
1987 May-1998 Aug.  
Box 130  
Federal Building Fund, Public Buildings Authorization Act of 1986

Box 131  
Federal Employees Retirement System, Summary  
1986 July  
Box 131  
Federal Pay Advisory Committee, FY85-86  
1984-1985  
Box 131  
Federal Pay Advisory Committee, FY88  
1987  
Box 131  
Commission on Executive Legislative and Judicial Salaries  
1988 Feb.  
Box 131  
Financial Management Service, FY86  
1986 Feb.  
Box 131  
General Services Administration

8 folders  
Bid Solicitation, Amtrak and Government Travel

1986 June  
Box 131  
Federal Supply Service Alternative Contract Language  
1987 Mar.-May  
Box 131  
Government Travel Expenses  
1985-1986  
Box 131  
Inspector General's Report (Semi-Annual)  
1984 Mar.  
Box 131  
John McCormack Building, Boston, MA/ Mark Wolf Case  
1985 Oct.-1986 Jan.  
Box 131  
Newsclippings  
1984-1985  
Box 131  
Regional Reorganization  
1986 Mar.-May  
Box 131  
World Trade Center, Boston, MA  
1986 Mar.-May  
Box 131  
Handicapped/Blind, Purchase from, FY84  
1983  
Box 131  
Internal Revenue Service, Vehicle Log Regulations  
1986  
Box 131  
John F. Kennedy Library

4 folders  
Amendment, SOC Talking Points, FY85  
1984  
Box 131  
Amendment, Background, w/SOC Statement  
1984 Sept.-Nov.  
Box 131  
JFK Library Saga  
1985-1986  
Box 131  
Library Addition  
1988  
Box 131  
Law Enforcement Training Center, Federal, FY84-87  
1983-1986  
Box 131  
Merit Pay

3 folders  
FY83-84  
1982-1983  
Box 131  
Office of Personnel Management, FY84  
1983 June-Dec.  
Box 131  
Office of Personnel Management, FY84, n.d.  
ca.1983  
Box 131  
National Indian Museum/U.S. Customs House, N.Y., N.Y.  
1986 Mar.  
Box 131  
A-122 (Circular): Cost Principles for Non-profit Organizations  
1983 Mar.-1984 June  
2 folders  
A-76 (Circular): Government Contracting

1984  
Box 131  
Polymer Research Center, UMass/Amherst  
1983-1987  
Box 131  
Polymer Research Center, Clippings, Articles, Speeches  
1983-1985  
Box 131  
Postal Service

18 folders  
Charleston, SC Post Office, Hartnett Bill  
1984 June-July  
Box 131  
Commemorative Stamp for Alice Paul  
1985 Jan.-May  
Box 131  
Greenfield, MA, Post Office, Handicapped Access  
1984 Feb.  
Box 131  
Newsclippings  
1984  
Box 131  
Off Budget Provisions, n.d.  
ca.1988  
Box 131  
Rate Hike 1985, Correspondence  
1984 Oct.  
Box 131  
Revenue Foregone

10 folders  
Non-profit Mail Rate Increase, FY85-87  
1984-1986  
Box 131  
Rate Increase, Cato Institutes Analysis, FY85-87  
1985  
Box 131  
Constituent Correspondence, FY85-87  
1984-1986  
Box 131  
FY86  
1985 Apr.  
Box 131  
Reform FY86  
1977-1985  
Box 131  
FY87  
1986  
Box 131  
FY88  
1988  
Box 131  
Correspondence FY88, FY90  
1987-1989  
2 folders  
Box 131  
Subsidy, For Profit, Catholic Papers  
1986 Jan.-Mar.  
Box 131  
Subsidy Reform  
1985  
Box 131  
Postal Union Information  
1984 Oct.-1985 Mar.  
Box 131

Presidential Libraries  
1984 May-June  
Box 131  
Public Debt Bureau  
1986  
Box 131  
Section 515, Consulting Services  
1986  
Box 131  
Shaine Anti-Dumping Petition  
1985  
3 folders  
Box 131  
Tax Administration Trust Fund, FY87-91  
1986  
Box 131  
Tax Bill, H.R. 4170, Conference  
1984 Apr.-June  
Box 131  
Tax, Petroleum/Home Heating Oil, FY91  
1990 Sept.  
Box 131  
Subseries k-1 Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, General Government (T/PO)  
1981-1990  
1 box, 1.25 linear ft.

Conte was a logical choice for appointee to this commission when it was created under the Coinage Act of 1965. As ranking minority member of the Subcommittee on Treasury-Post Service and an strong advocate for reform to the coinage system, Conte was the leading spokesman in the House for the elimination of silver from the subsidiary coins.

This subseries contains newsclippings, press releases, testimonies, statements, correspondence, committee reports, and bills relating to the so-called "silver issue," and the Coinage Act of 1965. The Act was passed in response to a multi-year coin shortage throughout the country as a result of several factors: a post-World War II population explosion, an increase in the use of coin-operated machines throughout the economy, and speculators hoarding coins.

Conte was an original designer of the Act which provided for minting of dimes and quarters from nonprecious metals, the first fundamental change to be made in the coinage system since 1792.

Joint Commission on the Coinage  
1963-1968  
Coin Shortage, "Silver Issue,"  
1964  
4 folders  
Bills and Reports

Box 132  
H.R. 8926 Coinage Act of 1965

11 folders  
Bills, Messages, Reports

Box 132  
Clippings, Articles

2 folders  
Box 132  
Correspondence

Box 132  
Floor Statements

Box 132  
Press Releases & Statements

2 folders  
Box 132  
Scrapbook

Box 132  
Statements by others than SOC

Box 132  
Joint Commission on the Coinage  
1967  
Briefing Book

3 folders  
Box 132  
Joint Commission on the Coinage  
1969  
2 folders  
Box 132  
Joint Commission on the Coinage  
1970  
Box 132  
Report on the Task Force on Silver and Coinage Policy  
1967  
Box 132  
Subseries I: Markup Books  
1973-1990  
4 boxes, 5 linear ft.

Markup books are the working files of the minority staff assistants compiled in the effort to monitor various appropriations bills. The typical markup book, categorized by subcommittee appropriation bill and organized by fiscal year, consists of a binder containing budget justification tables, correspondence from lobbying groups, committee recommendations, memoranda, report language and floor statements regarding the bill under subcommittee consideration.

Because much of the material contained in the Markup books is available for research in The Center for Legislative Archives, the repository for the official records of Congress, only a sample has been retained here.

Labor-HEW, FY 1975 (3 binders)

Box 133  
Department of Transportation, FY 1975

Box 133  
Foreign Aid FY 1978

Box 133  
Military Construction FY 1978

Box 134  
Chrysler Aid Package FY 1979

Box 134  
Interior, FY 1980 (2 binders)

Box 134

HUD-Independent Agencies FY 1980

Box 134  
Supplemental Appropriations FY 1982 (2 binders)

Box 135  
Jobs Bill FY 1983

Box 135  
Bipartisan Recovery Budget FY 1983

Box 135  
Department of Labor FY 1984

Box 135  
National Institutes of Health FY 1986 (2 binders)

Box 136  
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education FY 1987

Box 136  
Health and Human Services FY 1988

Box 136  
Subseries m: Appropriations Correspondence  
1984-1991  
2 boxes, 2.5 linear ft.

The files have been arranged alphabetically within chronological periods.

This two-box series contains copies of outgoing correspondence sent by Conte's staff and concerns the following appropriations subcommittees: Labor-HHS-Ed, Interior, Defense and Agriculture, Energy and Water.

There are also many letters concerning issues of general interest such as foreign policy, the environment, trade, education, and the budget deficit.

General  
1986  
Box 137  
Kulikowski, Jim  
1984  
3 folders  
Box 137  
Post, Roger  
1984  
3 folders  
Box 137  
Kulikowski, Jim  
1985  
9 folders  
Box 137  
Post, Roger  
1985  
6 folders  
Box 137  
Gossens, Peter  
1987  
Box 137  
Fairchild, Jim  
1988  
Box 138

Gossens, Peter  
1988  
Box 138  
Kramerich, Leslie  
1988  
Box 138  
Kulikowski, Jim  
1988  
Box 138  
Laverty, Jessica  
1988  
Box 138  
Mileszko, Gayl  
1988  
Box 138  
Shea, Tim  
1988  
Box 138  
Wollerton, Chinch  
1988  
Box 138  
Chow, Jack  
1989  
Box 138  
Fairchild, Jim  
1989  
Box 138  
Gibson, Bob  
1989  
Box 138  
Gossens, Peter  
1989  
Box 138  
Kulikowski, Jim  
1989  
Box 138  
Ogsbury, Jim  
1989  
Box 138  
Shea, Tim  
1989  
Box 138  
Wollerton, Chinch  
1989  
Box 138  
Chow, Jack  
1990  
Box 138  
Fairchild, Jim  
1990  
Box 138  
Gibson, Bob  
1990  
Box 138  
Knight, Patricia  
1990  
Box 138  
Kulikowski, Jim  
1990  
Box 138  
Lee, Sarah  
1990  
Box 138  
McKinnon, Don  
1990  
Box 138  
Ogsbury, Jim  
1990

Box 138  
Seely, Nina  
1990  
Box 138  
Shea, Tim  
1990  
Box 138  
Weston, Mark  
1990  
3 folders  
Box 138  
Wollerton, Chinch  
1990  
Box 138  
Chow, Jack  
1991  
Box 138  
Kulikowski, Jim  
1991  
Box 138  
Ogsbury, Jim  
1991  
Box 138  
Weston, Mark  
1991  
Box 138  
Series 4: Floor Statements  
1959-1990  
3 boxes

This series represents the office staff's efforts to maintain files of Conte's remarks on the floor as printed in the Congressional Record.

The files are arranged chronologically and there are no floor statements prior to 1965. There is one folder for the years 1965-1966. Beginning in 1967, the files become more numerous with a folder for each month. From 1975 to 1990 there are item lists for each year except 1976 and 1979. These lists have been filed at the beginning of the box.

Lists by subject cover the years 1981-1982 and include three valuable compilations as well: "Farm Subsidies," 1969-1972; "Petroleum Issues," 1959-1984; and "Agricultural Bills," 1968-1978. Documented here is Conte's outspoken opposition to oil import quotas and farm subsidies throughout his career which resulted in the introduction of much legislation.

Conte's floor remarks can be found scattered throughout many of the other series including Legislative Subject Files, Committee Files, and Speeches, and have been reprinted in Press Releases and Radio Transcripts.

1965

Box 139  
1966

Box 139  
July-December, 1967

6 folders  
Box 139  
January-May, 1968

5 folders  
Box 139  
July-October, 1968

4 folders

Box 139  
January-December, 1969

12 folders  
Box 139  
January-December, 1970

12 folders  
Box 139  
January-December, 1971

12 folders  
Box 139  
January-October, 1972

10 folders  
Box 139  
January-September 1973

8 folders  
Box 139  
January-December 1973

12 folders  
Box 139  
January, 1974

Box 139  
March-August, 1974

6 folders  
Box 139  
January-December, 1975

12 folders  
Box 139  
Index  
1975  
Box 140  
Index  
1977  
Box 140  
Index  
1978  
Box 140  
Index  
1982-1990  
Box 140  
February-December, 1975

11 folders  
Box 140  
January-September, 1976

9 folders  
Box 140  
January-December, 1977

11 folders  
Box 140  
March-October, 1978

8 folders  
Box 140  
January-December, 1979

8 folders  
Box 140  
January-March, 1980

3 folders  
Box 140  
April-June, 1980

3 folders  
Box 140  
April-May, 1982

2 folders  
Box 140  
January, 1983

Box 140  
May, 1983

Box 140  
July, 1983

Box 140  
September-November, 1983

3 folders  
Box 140  
April-June, 1984

3 folders  
Box 140  
February-October, 1985

8 folders  
Box 140  
December, 1985

Box 140  
January-October, 1986

10 folders  
Box 140  
February-July, 1987

6 folders  
Box 140  
September, 1987

Box 140  
December, 1987

Box 140  
January, 1988

Box 140  
February, 1988

Box 140  
April-October, 1988

7 folders  
Box 140  
January-December 1989

11 folders  
Box 140  
January-July, 1990

7 folders  
Box 140  
September-November, 1990

3 folders  
Box 140  
Agricultural Bill

10 folders  
Cotton  
1963-1978  
Box 141  
Dairy  
1967-1979  
Box 141  
Emergency Farm Bill  
1978 Apr.-May  
Box 141  
Emergency Price Support  
1975  
Box 141  
Farm Subsidy Limitations  
1969 June-1972 June  
Box 141  
Food Stamps  
1979 Oct.-1984 June  
Box 141  
Honey  
1972-1980  
Box 141  
Rice  
1977  
Box 141  
Sugar  
1960-1979

Box 141  
Wheat  
1977-1980  
Box 141  
Farm Subsidy

47 folders  
Box 141  
Petroleum Issues

127 folders  
Box 141  
Various Subjects 97th Congress

22 folders  
Index

Box 141  
1st District

Box 141  
Appropriations (6)

Box 141  
Arms Control

Box 141  
Budget Deficits

Box 141  
Defense

Box 141  
Energy

Box 141  
Environment

Box 141  
Foreign Policy

Box 141  
General (2)

Box 141  
Human Rights

Box 141  
Labor

Box 141  
Miscellaneous

Box 141  
Small Business

Box 141  
Social Services, Health

Box 141  
Taxes

Box 141  
Series 5: Briefing Books/Issue Books  
1959-1984  
1 box, 1.25 linear ft.

Series 5, Briefing Books/Issue Books, one box, is a small series consisting of materials compiled for quick reference on key issues of concern to Conte and his constituents. Compiled sporadically by staff, the typical briefing book is an indexed compilation of materials focusing on a particular subject. The files have been arranged chronologically and materials include correspondence, floor statements, press releases, op-ed articles, newsclippings, speeches, and data sheets.

Notable compilations include a Farm Subsidies Book, 1973; two Oil Notebooks with accompanying item-level lists from 1959-1973, and a related Energy Issues Book, 1971-1973; and a Peace Record generated in response to the Vietnam War containing a summary of Conte's votes in Congress on issues concerning defense appropriations, foreign aid, and military campaigns in Vietnam. The Nuclear Freeze briefing book, 1982, documents Conte's actions in Congress regarding the move to nuclear disarmament.

For ease of access and preservation reasons, the books have been disassembled and items placed in acid-free folders.

Oil Notebook  
1959-1969  
1959

Box 142  
1961-1964

Box 142  
1965

Box 142  
1966-1968

Box 142  
1969

Box 142  
Oil Notebook  
1970-1972  
Table of Contents

Box 142  
Contents Items 1-20

Box 142  
Contents Items 21-39

Box 142

Contents Item 40

Box 142

Contents Items 41-55

Box 142

Contents Items 56-65

Box 142

Contents Items 66-81

Box 142

Energy Issue Book, Home Heating Oil

Sep-Oct 1971

Box 142

Nov 1971-May 1972

Box 142

Jun-Dec 1972

Box 142

Jan-Mar 1973

Box 142

Apr-May 1973

Box 142

Jun-Aug 1973

Box 142

Peace Record, Volume I

Voting Record

1965-1973

Box 142

SOC statements and Speeches

1967 Aug.-1971 June

Box 142

Congressional Statements

1967 Nov.-1972 Sept.

Box 142

SOC Bill Descriptions

1969 Feb.-1972 Apr.

Box 142

Correspondence

1970-1972

Box 142

Clippings and Information

Box 142

Peace Record, Volume II

1973 Jan.-July

Box 142

SALT II Reference Guide  
1979 May  
Box 142  
Nuclear Weapons Freeze  
1982  
Resolution, Cosponsors

Box 142  
Dear Colleagues Speeches

Box 142  
Press Clippings

Box 142  
Meeting with Kennedy

Box 142  
"Weak Points in our Position"

Box 142  
Pro-Freeze Correspondence

Box 142  
Jackson-Warner Proposal

Box 142  
Harvard Group Visit to Congress

Box 142  
"Miscellaneous"

Box 142  
Rickover Testimony

Box 142  
New York Times Letter  
1982 Oct.  
Box 142  
Athol Briefing Book  
1983 Mar.  
Special Projects and Questions

Box 142  
Area Statistics

Box 142  
Jobs Legislation and Training

Box 142  
Humanitarian Assistance

Box 142  
Export/Trade Issues

Box 142  
New Budget Priorities for the 1980s, published FY84

Contents and Introduction

Box 142  
Taxes

Box 142  
Joblessness/Employment Training

Box 142  
New Budget Priorities for the 1980s

OSHA

Box 142  
Food and Hunger

Box 142  
Housing

Box 142  
Energy

Box 142  
Health Care

Box 142  
Education/Higher Education

Box 142  
Critical Services

Box 142  
Military Spending

Box 142  
Series 6: Legislative Subject/Correspondence Files  
1959-1991  
106 boxes, 132.5 linear ft.

The Legislative Subject/Correspondence Files comprise one of the largest series in the collection. It consists of 106 boxes and has been divided into two subseries: Subseries a, the "7,000" Files, contains files spanning 1959-1979, that were assigned a 7,000 number by office staff. The original office filing system has been retained with the folders arranged alphabetically by topic or by agency or department that the issue pertained to; and, except for the first four years of Conte's service in Congress (1959-1963), are grouped in one-year periods mirroring the sessions of Congress.

A large percentage of the files contain constituent correspondence, often with Conte's outgoing response attached; other correspondents include congressional colleagues, state and local officials, agency officials, and lobbyists. Also contained within these files are printed bills; committee reports; press releases; floor remarks, newsclippings and background materials.

Topics reflect Conte's early committee assignments on the House Appropriations Committee and its

subcommittees on Foreign Operations and Treasury-Postal Service (1959-1971) and later assignments on the subcommittees on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education (1971-1991) and Transportation (1973-1991) and to a smaller degree, the less visible Small Business Committee (1965-1991).

Topics of national issues reflected here include the Watergate Hearings, invasion of Cambodia, federal aid to education, the threat of communism, labor legislation, federal tax revisions, human rights, restrictions on importation of oil, gun control, civil rights legislation, appropriations for the Supersonic Transport, Roe vs. Wade, the Russian wheat deal of 1974, veterans legislation and the Vietnam War. There is a good deal of overlap in this series with similar topics and materials to be found in the General Subject Files and Bill Files.

Among several issues in this series that generated large amounts of constituent letters is H.R. 17735, a bill calling for a ban on interstate mail order sale of firearms and ammunition and introduced in response to the assassination of Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr., and John F. Kennedy.

By the mid 1970s the files are overrun with constituent correspondence. This series ends in 1979 when Conte's office adopted a computerized correspondence system to handle the rapidly increasing amounts of mail. From that time on, most of the constituent correspondence which had been filed either in this series, or in its parallel series, General Subject/Correspondence, would be filed in numerical order according to an automated correspondence system.

Subseries b: Legislative Issues, consists of post-1980 files maintained and passed down among several legislative assistants. The nine boxes of files are arranged alphabetically and relate to issues of international, national, state and local interest.

Documented here is Conte's opposition to humanitarian aid to the Nicaraguan Contras, and the 1983 Immigration Reform Act, which focused on immigration and refugee policies. There is considerable attention paid to international trade policies as reflected by the files on the Export Trading Company Act of 1982 and the Export-Import Bank.

Issues of national interest documented here include abortion, the budget deficit, and education funding as well as Conte's well-publicized battle to defeat honey subsidies and loans during the late 1980s. There are many topics pertaining to Massachusetts and the First District. Especially well documented is the Clay-Conte-Ford Plant Closing Bill, which sought to mandate advanced notice to plant workers in the event of lay-offs and to provide assistance to displaced workers. Other First District issues addressed include the excessive air traffic of C-5 transport planes from the Westover Air Force Base, grants to local housing authorities, and Conte's efforts to provide funding for Amtrak, Pioneer Valley Railways, and other railway corporations.

There are several files on the Pittsfield General Electric plant documenting Conte's efforts to protect jobs by generating manufacturing opportunities and by obtaining contracts for the plant. Related to those efforts are files pertaining to the Phalanx Liquid Propellant defense system and to airplane engine manufacturing. Protection of jobs is apparent in the 1984 files which discuss the strong "Buy American" provisions Conte advocated for government procurement of electric transformers.

There are files on environmental issues such as hazardous waste in Williamstown and Millers Falls, and animal and wetlands conservation efforts throughout Western Massachusetts.

As is the case with the Bill files, the complete folder title list for this series is not in this guide owing to its long length. It is available in the Special Collections and University Archives Reading Room.

### Subgroup III. Press Relations and Media Activity

Series 1: Speeches  
1958-1991  
5 boxes, 5 linear ft.

Conte's speeches reflect his thoughts, opinions and philosophy. Here are documented Conte's public views on a wide variety of issues of importance to 20th-century America.

Conte's rigorous schedule of public appearances is revealed here; he appeared before professional associations, unions, church and civic groups, fraternal organizations, and veterans groups. He attended dedications, receptions, inductions, groundbreakings, commencements, and many other special events.

The five boxes of speeches are arranged chronologically and usually contain the official text of Conte's address. Sometimes there are annotated drafts of speeches as well as background information and correspondence related to the occasion. Also included here are floor statements and some campaign speeches. Most are identified by location of speech.

1958-1967  
83 folders  
Box 250

1968-1973  
63 folders  
Box 251  
1974-1980  
78 folders  
Box 252  
1981-1986  
69 folders  
Box 253  
1987-1991  
49 folders  
Box 254  
Series 2, Press Releases  
1965-1991  
7 boxes, 8.75 linear ft.

The seven boxes of Press Releases provide highlights of Conte's political career, legislative activities, honors and awards, and also serve as a useful summary of federal grants and projects procured by Conte for the First District.

There are extensive chronological item-level lists for both Speeches and Press Releases available in Special Collections and University Archives.

1950-1962  
49 folders  
Box 255  
1963-1966  
53 folders  
Box 256  
1967-1973  
81 folders  
Box 257  
1974-1976  
45 folders  
Box 258  
1977-1984  
96 folders  
Box 259  
1985-1988  
48 folders  
Box 260  
1989-1991  
27 folders  
Box 261  
Series 3: Radio and Television Transcripts  
1959-1990  
3 boxes, 3.75 linear ft.

This three-box series is arranged chronologically

Much of the material in this series consists of radio show transcripts. The weekly 15-minute radio programs were taped in the House recording studio and mailed to radio stations in the First District.

Titled "This Week in Washington," "Congressional Report," and "Report from Washington" at various times, the radio programs are an excellent source of information on Conte's legislative initiatives and the current issues facing the First District, Congress, and the nation. The programs offer background histories of long-standing issues and detailed accounts of the appropriations process while illustrating the day-to-day operations on Capitol Hill. Transcripts range from as far back as Conte's freshman year in Congress and up to October 1990.

Conte frequently conducted interviews on the show. Interviewees were typically fellow members of Congress or federal department officials.

The few television files contain transcripts of programs from 1959; and background information and correspondence on various television interviews and special programs spanning 1960-1990.

Many of the radio shows exist in audiotape and audiocassette recordings (Audio-Visual Series). Often, Conte's radio shows, television programs, and speeches were reprinted as press releases. Thus, there is considerable overlap among the three series: Speeches, Press Releases and Radio & TV Transcripts.

Radio Shows  
1959-1969  
63 folders  
Box 262  
Radio Shows  
1970-1979  
65 folders  
Box 263  
Radio Shows, TV Shows  
1959-1990  
114 folders  
Box 264  
Series 4: Newsletters  
1959-1990  
1 box

Arranged chronologically.

With a folksy, informal style Conte updated his readers on his activities in Congress; the introduction of new legislation; current issues facing Congress and the First District and Conte family news. The newsletters in this series cover Conte's entire congressional career from 1959 to 1990 with 1971 missing.

Topics covered in the newsletters include: the Civil Rights Bill, farm subsidies, social security, foreign policy, medicare, trade, the energy crisis, acid rain, wildlife preservation, foreign aid, defense spending, wage and price controls, and federal aid to education. He often reported on recent trips taken, such as a trip to China (1977) and the Soviet Union (1985). There are newsletters devoted solely to Vietnam (1967) and the proposed impeachment of President Nixon (1974).

The newsletters also contain the tabulated results of Conte's annual First district questionnaire.

Series 5: Photographs  
1950-1990  
29 boxes, 14.5 linear ft.

This series provides a photographic record of Conte's public service. There are over five thousand mostly black and white photographs and slides spanning four decades. The majority of photographs are of Conte posing with visiting First District constituents. Here are located photographs taken during his travels particularly in South East Asia (1959), Africa (1961), China (1977), Latin America (1978), and Hungary (1979); photographs of special events; with members of Congress, the Cabinet, Presidents, and other VIP's; and family photographs. There are slides of the annual Congressional baseball game and of the trip to the Soviet Union in 1985. Several photograph albums were disassembled and sleeved with the original order retained.

There is a chronological list of identified photographs in the collection available in Special Collections and University Archives as well as a database with additional subject and name indexing.

Series 6: Audio-Visual Materials  
1958-1991  
4 shelves, 12 linear ft.

Series 6, Audio-Visual materials, includes a diverse range of formats and consists of audiotapes, audiocassettes, videotapes, and films.

Audio recordings  
1958-1991  
229 items: 85 reel to reel audiotapes, 134 compact cassettes

The audio recordings are in both reel to reel audiotape and compact cassette form and span the dates 1958-1991. Many document Conte's travels to Africa and Germany in 1961; Indonesia and Thailand in 1966; and Israel and Egypt in 1975. The trip to the Middle East in 1975 features recordings of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzak Rabin, Defense Secretary Shimon Peres and Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Ismail Fahmy. Also well documented is a Conte-sponsored 1976 Western Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce symposium, a 1980 Energy Symposium, 1980 at UMass; and the biennial Issues Symposium from 1980, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, and 1990.

There are many recordings of Conte's weekly radio shows spanning 1961-1990; there are assorted campaign spots; various appropriations hearings, and several interviews.

Included here is a recording of a 1958 testimonial dinner honoring Conte's election to Congress with Dr. Frank Boyden, Judge Francis Quirico and former Speaker of the House Joseph Martin speaking on Conte's

behalf; and a 1987 fundraiser for the endowment of the Silvio O. Conte Chair at the University of Massachusetts with guest speaker former President and long-time friend of Conte's Gerald Ford, Vice President George Bush, and Senator Edward Kennedy. There is Conte's reaction to the Watergate Hearings; and a 1987 statement on the closing of the General Electric Corp.'s Power Transformer Plant in Pittsfield. Numbers in parentheses at the end of the title signify multiple tapes.

Conte Campaign spots

1958

Reel to Reel

Testimonial for Conte in Winning Congressional Seat

1958 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Campaign 1960

1960

Reel to Reel

Conte Campaign Spots (5)

ca.1965

Reel to Reel

ABC Special "The Slandered American"

ca.1965

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Guest Secretary of Labor, Arthur Goldberg

1961 May

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Africa: Nigeria

1961 Nov.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Africa: Nigeria

1961 Nov.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Africa: Morocco

1961 Nov.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Africa: Liberia

1961 Nov.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Africa: Health Conditions

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Africa: South Africa

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Africa: Congo

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Africa: Congo

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Africa: Kenya

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Berlin, Germany

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: West and East Berlin, Germany

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Africa Trip Report: Morocco

1961 Nov.

Reel to Reel

Africa Trip Report: Nigeria

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Africa Trip Report: Congo

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Africa Trip Report: Liberia and Nigeria

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Africa Trip Report: Liberia

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Africa Trip Report: Congo, South Africa

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Africa Trip Report: Liberia

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Africa Trip Report: South Africa

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Africa Trip Report: Kenya

1961 Dec.

Reel to Reel

Order of Sons of Italy, 48th Annual Convention

1962

Reel to Reel

Conte Statement on Foreign Aid Bill, 1964

1963

Reel to Reel

"Steve Allison Show," Washington, D.C., Conte as guest host (2)

1964 Feb.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Military Bases

1963 Mar.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Treasury-Postal Service Bill, 1965

1964

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Library Aide; Title 1

1964

Reel to Reel

Conte Statement on North Adams Hospital, WBRK

1966 Feb.

Reel to Reel

Thailand Report

1966

Reel to Reel

Indonesia Report

1966

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Guest Lawrence O'Brien, Postmaster General

1967 Apr.

Reel to Reel

Radio Show: Red Sox Carl Yastremski Honored

1968 Jan.

Reel to Reel

Conte's Announcement of Candidacy

1968 July

Reel to Reel

Campaign Spot

1968

Reel to Reel

"Opinion", Conte Interview, WSBS-Great Barrington

1970 Apr.

Cassette

Box AV1

Conte Interview: Public Service and Congress

1971 Mar.

Cassette

Box AV1

"Washington Profile" Conte Interview with Sue Schiffer

1971 July

Cassette

Box AV1

Georgetown Forum: "Why a House Committee on Captive Nations?"

1971

Cassette  
Box AV1  
Holyoke Gasoline Shortage Hearings (2)  
1973 Mar.  
Cassette  
Box AV1  
Conte Interview with Lyman Brainerd, University of Massachusetts Global Studies  
1974 June  
Cassette  
Box AV1  
Conte Statement on Vote to Impeach President Nixon (3)  
1974 Aug.  
Cassette  
Box AV1  
Tom Manning, Democratic Candidate First District  
1974 Aug.  
Cassette  
Box AV1  
Conte Interview with Fred Weiss, University of Massachusetts: Watergate; Nuclear Energy; Campaign Financing  
1974  
Cassette  
Box AV1  
Conte Statement on Energy Crisis  
1974  
Cassette  
Box AV1  
President Ford's Conte Endorsement  
1974  
Cassette  
Box AV1  
Radio Show: Guest: John W. Warner, Chief of Bicentennial  
1975 Mar.  
Cassette  
Box AV2  
Western Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce Symposium  
1975 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV2  
Washington, D.C. (8)  
1975 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV2  
Israel-Egypt Trip: Israeli Minister of Defense, Shimon Peres (2)  
1975 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV2  
Israel-Egypt Trip: Speaker of Egyptian People's Assembly, Engineer Saed Merei  
1975 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV2  
Israel-Egypt Trip: Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Ismail Fahmy  
1975 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV2  
Israel-Egypt Trip: Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin (2)  
1975 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV2  
Israel-Egypt Trip: Egyptian Prime Minister Abdel Hegazi  
1975 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV2  
Israel-Egypt Trip: President of Egyptian Parliament Interview  
1975 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV2  
Egyptian Prime Minister Interview

1975 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV2  
"Overseas Mission" American University, Conte Interview  
1975 July  
Cassette  
Box AV2  
Press Conference, President Ford's Nomination in MA (2)  
1975 Nov.  
Cassette  
Box AV2  
Radio Show: Small Business; Federal Bureaucracy  
1975 Dec.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Kodiak Island Trip  
1975 Aug.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Conte Speech to Berkshire Chamber of Commerce  
1976 Feb.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Radio Show: Guest: Dr. Theodore Cooper; Swine Flu  
1976 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Western Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce Symposium (6)  
1976 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Radio Show: Poland Trip  
1976 May  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Radio Show: Public Works Employment Bill  
1976 Aug.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
McColgan-O'Brien Democratic Primary Debate  
1976 Aug.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Conte Statement on gas prices  
1976 Sept.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Conte Campaign Spot  
1976 Oct.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Conte-McColgan Debate  
1976 Oct.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Ford-Dole Presidential Campaign  
1976 Oct.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Lesotho, Africa Trip: African-American Conference  
1976 Dec.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Radio Show: Guest: Rep. Jim Blanchard  
1977 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
Conte Interview, League of Women Voters

1977 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV3  
National Chamber of Commerce Interview, "High Cost of Keeping Your Congressman"  
1977 June  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
Radio Show: Guest: Rep. Joe Benton  
1977 June  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
"Meet the Member" Conte Interview with Joe McCaffrey, WMAL (2)  
1977 June  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
Radio Show: Guest: Admiral Owen W. Siler, Coast Guard  
1978 Feb.  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
Conte Campaign Spots  
1978  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
House Small Business Committee, Independent Truckers  
1979 June  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
House Small Business Committee, Petroleum Hearings  
1979 June  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
Putman Interview  
1979 Dec.  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
Symposium 1980 (2)  
1980 May  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
"Energy Alternatives and Assistance for the 80s", Energy Symposium, UMass (3)  
1980 Sept.  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
Conte Campaign Spots  
1980  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
Australia-New Zealand Trip, Interview with Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser, New Zealand Prime Minister Talboys, and various officials (3)  
1981 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
Statement on cosponsorship of bills banning Libyan Imports  
1981 Oct.  
Cassette  
Box AV4  
"Meet the Member" Conte Interview with Joe McCaffrey  
1982 Sept.  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
Education Appropriations Hearings (4)  
1982  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
Conte Campaign Spots  
1982  
Cassette  
Box AV5

Roast & Party for SOC  
1982  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
Conte Interview (unidentified)  
1982  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
Authorization Bill for Fiscal Year 1983  
1982  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
Budget Hearings for 1983, Health and Human Services  
1982  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
Congressional Baseball Game  
1982  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
Conte Speech at Right to Life Meeting, Washington D.C.  
1983 Jan.  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
Conte Interview: Budget, Education, Foreign Assistance, ERA  
1983  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
1984 Issues Symposium (5 tapes)  
1984 May  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
Council for Advancement and Support of Education Speech  
1985 Feb.  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
Reaction to State of the Union Address  
1985 Feb.  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
"Morning Edition," Conte Interview with Bob Edwards  
1985 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV5  
Radio Show: 1986 Appropriations  
1985 July  
Cassette  
Box AV6  
Senate Finance Committee Testing  
1986 Feb.  
Cassette  
Box AV6  
Radio Show: Oil Imports, Philippines  
1986 Feb.  
Cassette  
Box AV6  
Appropriations for National Institutes of Health (2 tapes)  
1986 Mar.  
Cassette  
Box AV6  
"Viewpoint," Interview with Bob Weiner, 1986 Campaign  
1986 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV6  
Radio Show: Oil Import Fee, Nuclear Test Ban, Philippines  
1986 Apr.  
Cassette  
Box AV6

1986 Issues Symposium (4)

1986 May

Cassette

Box AV6

Conte Campaign WREB Tape

1986

Cassette

Box AV6

WFCR-Amherst Fundraiser Spot

1986

Cassette

Box AV6

Conte Statement on General Electric Power Transformer Plant Closing

1987 Jan.

Cassette

Box AV6

Silvio Conte Dinner, Fundraiser for University of Massachusetts Amherst

1987 May

Cassette

Box AV6

AIDS Briefing with nine Nobel Prize Winners (3)

1987 June

Cassette

Box AV6

1988 Issues Symposium (3)

1988 May

Cassette

Box AV6

Appropriations Committee Tribute to Hon. Edward P. Boland, Springfield

1988 Oct.

Cassette

Box AV6

Radio Show: War Against Drugs

1989 Nov.

Cassette

Box AV7

Radio Show: Berlin Wall

1989 Nov.

Cassette

Box AV7

Radio Show: Czech President Havel to Congress, Disabilities Prevention Act

1990 Feb.

Cassette

Box AV7

Radio Show: Democratization

1999 Mar.

Cassette

Box AV7

Radio Show: Fuel Assistance

1999 Mar.

Cassette

Box AV7

Radio Show: Budget Reduction, Inspector General

1990 Apr.

Cassette

Box AV7

WMAC-Radio Conte Commentary, Pittsfield Parking Garage

1990 May

Cassette

Box AV7

1990 Issues Symposium (5)

1990 May

Cassette

Box AV7

Radio Show: Clean Air

1990 May

Cassette

Box AV7

Son's of Italy: Tribute to Conte in Honor of SOC Scholarship Fund  
1990 June  
Cassette  
Box AV7  
Radio Show: Bush-Gorbachev Summit, Northeast Fish Research Lab, Budget Summit  
1990 June  
Cassette  
Box AV7  
Northeast Anadromous Fish Lab Turners Falls, 1990 Radio Spot  
1990 June  
Cassette  
Box AV7  
Radio Show: Fish Lab  
1990 June  
Cassette  
Box AV7  
Radio Show: Education  
1990 July  
Cassette  
Box AV7  
Radio Show: Housing  
1990 July  
Cassette  
Box AV7  
Conte Statement on Antarctica  
1990 July  
Cassette  
Box AV8  
Radio Show: Americans with Disabilities Act  
1990 July  
Cassette  
Box AV8  
Radio Show: Medicare  
1990 Aug.  
Cassette  
Box AV8  
Radio Show: Budget Summit, Persian Gulf Crisis, Defense Authorization Bill  
1990 Sept.  
Cassette  
Box AV8  
Radio Show: Defense Authorization Bill for FY 1991  
1990 Sept.  
Cassette  
Box AV8  
Radio Show: Home Heating, Budget Cuts, Peace Corps  
1990 Oct.  
Cassette  
Box AV8  
Radio Show: Weather Service  
1990  
Cassette  
Box AV8  
Conte on Turners Falls Fish and Wildlife Lab  
1990  
Cassette  
Box AV8  
Public Service Announcement-Conte on Census  
1990  
Cassette  
Box AV8  
Conte Comments on Persian Gulf votes in Congress  
1991 Jan.  
Cassette  
Box AV8  
Conte Speech at Massachusetts Citizens for Life Meeting  
1991 Jan.  
Cassette  
Box AV8

"Voice of America" Conte Interview: Jordan

1991 Jan.

Cassette

Box AV8

Sharon Pratt-Dixon Reception

1991 Jan.

Cassette

Box AV8

Highlights of Conte

1991

Cassette

Box AV8

Conte Interview with Veronica Lewis

undated

Cassette

Box AV8

Wildlife Federation

undated

Cassette

Box AV8

Radio Show: Social Service Funding Bill

undated

Cassette

Box AV8

Films

1959-1974

53 items

The fifty-three films mainly consists of Conte's five-minute television program and date from 1959, 1961 and 1967-1968. The television programs were often condensed versions of the radio programs. As is the case with the radio programs, many of the dialogues are reprinted in the Radio & TV Transcripts (Sub-Group III, Series 3).

Conte often interviewed a guest, usually a federal department or agency official or member of Congress, and discussed current issues before Congress. Guests range from John W. Lederle, the president of the University of Massachusetts (1967), Sargent Shriver, director of the Peace Corps (1961) to Governor of Massachusetts John Volpe (1967).

Because so many of the films were made in 1967-1968 there is much discussion of Vietnam, including Conte's stance regarding it, and First District constituents' response. Furthermore, the 1959 and 1961 films often address foreign aid, the communist "threat," and the Cold War. There are also a few films of the Congressional baseball game (1972, 1974) and of other special events.

First Term Interview, Minimum wage, Unemployment, Labor Bill, Union Regulations

1959 Jan.

Conte on Communism

1959 June

Conte on Labor Reform; Union Corruption

1959 June

Conte Capitol Building Facelift

1959 July

Conte on Khrushchev-Eisenhower Meeting; Cold War

1959 Aug.

Conte w/Guest: Stewart Udall, Secretary of Interior, Cape Cod National Seashore; Residual Oil Restriction

1961 Mar.

Conte w/Guest: Dr. Beaubein, Project Hope

1961 Apr.

Conte w/guest: Sargent Shriver, Director of Peace Corps, Recruitment and Funding

1961 May

Conte w/guest: Arthur J. Goldberg, Secretary of Labor, Minimum Wage Law; Automation; H.R. 2955 Trade Union

1961 May

Conte w/guest: Professor Adolf Burley, Task Force on Latin America; Cuba

1961 May

Conte on Minimum Wage; Water Pollution

1961 July

Soap Box Derby, Northampton, MA

1966 June

Conte w/guest: Hon. Gerald Ford, President Johnson's State of the Union Address; Budget Deficit

1967 Jan.  
Conte on Adam Clayton Powell; Change of House Appropriations Committee; Coast Guard Switched from Treasury Department to Department of Transportation  
1967 Jan.  
Conte on Federal Deficit; Presidential Spending; Temporary subcommittee on the Budget; Appropriations Committee reorganization; Route 91 project  
1967 Feb.  
Conte on C.I.A. involvement with National Student Association  
1967 Feb.  
Conte on Draft laws; Deferment; Adam Clayton Powell, Gun Control, Vietnam  
1967 Mar.  
Conte on Cable TV  
1967 Mar.  
Conte w/guest: Governor John Volpe of Massachusetts on visit to Washington, D.C.  
1967 Mar.  
Conte w/guest: Lawrence O'Brien, Postmaster of U.S., Postal Service  
1967 Apr.  
Conte w/guest: Governor George Romney of Michigan, Issues facing the 1968 Presidential Election  
1967 Apr.  
Conte w/guest: Mrs. Lucy Benson, Amherst, MA, Vice President of the National League of Women Voters, Equality in Education and Employment  
1967 May  
National Association of Business and Education Radio award of merit presented to Conte for outstanding contributions for land-mobile radio  
1967 June  
Conte w/guests: Pittsfield Rabbi and Northampton Rabbi; Middle East Crisis; State of Israel  
1967 June  
Conte on Ten Percent Surcharge on Income Tax  
1967 June  
Conte w/guest: Captain Carroll, USMC; Study of Weapons used in Vietnam  
1967 July  
Conte w/guest: Dr. John W. Lederle, President of University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Project Themis; Funding for the new Library; Graduate Research Center; Medical School  
1967 July  
Conte on Vietnam; August 5th American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars Speech, Dalton MA  
1967 Aug.  
Conte on Vietnam, calling for ban on bombing North Vietnam unconditionally  
1967 Aug.  
Conte w/guest: Senator Charles Percy of Illinois, National Home Ownership Bill; Vietnam  
1967 Aug.  
Conte w/guest: Hon. Donald Rumsfeld, Japanese-American Conference  
1967 Sept.  
Conte w/guest: Hon. Don W. Riegle Jr., Economic Aid for Vietnam  
1967 Oct.  
Conte on increase in Income Tax debate  
1967 Oct.  
Conte on Poverty Program; Foreign Aid Bill; Arms Race in Latin America  
1967 Nov.  
Conte w/guest: Bob Crowe of Deerfield Academy, Internship Program  
1967 Nov.  
Conte on Social Security Benefit increase  
1967 Dec.  
Conte on 1967 Social Security Bill  
1967  
Conte w/guest: John Jackson, Governor Volpe's Washington, D.C. Representative; Grants to Massachusetts  
1967  
Conte w/guest: Honorable George Mahon, D-TX, Chairman Appropriations Committee  
1967  
Conte on Red Sox visit to Washington, D.C.; Carl Yastremski honored; Ways and Means Committee; Ten Percent Surcharge Tax Increase  
1968 Jan.  
Conte on Washington, D.C.'s Proposed Visitor Center  
1968 Jan.  
Visit to Reynold's Manufacturing Company  
ca.1975  
General Electric Broadcasting: John Chambers with Conte, Power Transformer Dumping  
1971 Oct.  
Conte Introduction and Closing to Apollo-15 Film

1972 Jan.  
West Springfield High Band Visit to Washington, D.C.; Constituent visits to the office; Cherry Blossoms  
1972 Apr.  
Baseball Films From Susan Schiffer  
1972 Aug.  
Congressional Baseball Game  
1972  
Congressional Baseball Game, NBC-TV  
1972  
Energy Crisis, Meeting with New England Fuel Institutes  
1973 Nov.  
Conte with President Ford in the White House, for use in Campaign Spots  
1974  
Conte Campaign Spot, WWLP, Issues include agriculture and gasoline  
1974  
Videotapes  
1976-1991  
15 items

There are 15 videotapes spanning 1976-1991. Here are campaign spots for local television stations, a few interviews including an undated 28-minute Channel 40 interview, a 1983 public broadcasting report on Congress which features Conte, a short 1990 interview regarding the House vote on the budget, and a 1991 35-minute promotional documentary produced by the Silvio O. Conte Education Foundation. There are tapes with House floor coverage including Conte's remarks on the line item veto (1984), and oil import fee (1989), and two statements by Conte on his sponsored "Decade of the Brain" Resolution (1990).

Conte Interview with Joseph J. Sisco  
1975 Sept.  
Campaign Tape, WFSB-TV 3 Hartford, CT  
1976  
Congressional Baseball Game  
1983 July  
Line Item Veto  
1984 Jan.  
Campaign Spots  
1986 Sept.  
Groundbreaking for the New England Anadromous Fish Research Lab, Turners Falls, MA  
1966 June  
House Floor Remarks, Includes Oil Import Fee Debate  
1989 Jan.-May  
"Decade of the Brain"  
1989 Dec.  
"Decade of the Brain"  
1990 Jan.  
Budget Interview, WGGB-Channel 40, Springfield  
1990 Oct.  
"Congressman Silvio O. Conte: One Man Who Made a Difference," Silvio O. Conte Education Foundation  
ca.1995  
Labor Day Speech, Commemorating Labor Day as a Holiday  
undated  
Conversation with Frank McInerney, WGGB-Channel 40, Springfield  
undated  
Subgroup IV. Constituent Services

Series 1: Constituent Mail/Issue Mail  
1959-1991  
Subseries a: General Correspondence/Subject Files  
1959-1980  
78 boxes, 97.5 linear ft.

During the early years of Conte's tenure, the office staff's filing structure was broken down into two major divisions General Subject/Correspondence files in this series and Legislative Subject/Correspondence files (II,6). The General files document the more constituent-related services a member's office provides and the internal information needs of the office. The original order has been retained. For the first decade (1959-1968) of Conte's tenure in office the folders were arranged alphabetically by topic, and, except for the first four years of Conte's service in Congress (1959-1963), grouped in one-year periods mirroring the sessions of congress.

The system changed in 1969; files were grouped by federal agency or department, or, by type or function of the document. For example, all requests (type) were grouped together as were files on the media (function). The system changed again in 1979, as reflected in subseries c, numbered correspondence.

Many of the files contain constituent correspondence with Conte's outgoing response attached. There are files on federal agencies and departments, the State of Massachusetts, the armed services, and First District businesses and industry. Much of the information was maintained for the purpose of obtaining grants and projects for First District towns, cities, small businesses, industry, and community organizations. There are files relating to General Electric, the proposed closing of the Springfield Armory, and Westover Air Force Base.

Information on the Republican National Committee, conventions and platforms and on various Republican candidates for office is filed here.

Although the parallel series, Legislative Subject/Correspondence files, usually contained the bulk of issue mail concerning legislative issues and bills before Congress, there is a substantial amount of "issue"-related correspondence in the General files as well; for example, the large amount of constituent correspondence regarding the Vietnam War.

The General Correspondence files illustrate Conte's inclination to answer all mail and to preserve the entirety of the records created by his office. Requests for materials such as flags, agricultural yearbooks, pictures, government publications, or gallery passes were filed within this series. In addition to such request files there are copies of correspondence that Conte staff wrote to constituents when their names appeared in the newspapers. New brides and parents of new babies were sent Department of Agriculture information booklets. Awards, anniversaries, elections to office, appointments to posts, deaths, weddings, all generated a brief letter of congratulations or condolence from Conte. Most of these routine files have been discarded to reduce bulk.

As is the case with the other large series in the collection, the folder title list is not included in this guide and is available in Special Collections and University Archives.

**Subseries 1: Post Office Files**

1973-1977

3 boxes, 3.75 linear ft.

Arranged alphabetically by community.

This three box subseries contains correspondence from First District residents concerning problems with mail delivery, opinions for and against proposals for new post offices, and inquiries into employment opportunities within the Postal Service. Additionally, there is documentation of Conte's efforts to have particular commemorative stamps issued. These files differ from files in the Legislative Subject Files titled Postal, which mainly deal with Postal appropriations in the federal budget process.

General Correspondence

1969

Box 343

General Correspondence

1973

Box 343

General Correspondence

1974

Box 343

General Correspondence

1975

Box 343

General Correspondence

1976

Box 343

General Correspondence

1977

Box 343

Commemorative Stamps

1969

Box 343

Commemorative Stamps

1970-1974

Box 343

Susan B. Anthony Commemorative Stamp

1970

Box 343

Baseball Commemoratives  
1969  
Box 343  
William Cullen Bryant Commemorative Stamp  
1979  
Box 343  
Emily Dickinson Commemorative Stamp  
1971  
Box 343  
Hoosac Tunnel Commemorative Stamp  
1972-1974  
Box 343  
Moby Dick Commemorative Stamp  
1970  
Box 343  
Montessori Commemorative Stamp  
1973  
Box 343  
Shaker Village Commemorative Stamp  
1975  
Box 343  
Adams

Box 343  
Agawam

Box 343  
Amherst

3 folders  
Box 343  
Ashfield

Box 343  
Ashley Falls

Box 343  
Athol

Box 343  
Baldwinville

Box 343  
Becket

Box 343  
Belchertown

Box 343  
Berkshire

Box 343  
Bernardston

Box 343  
Blandford

Box 344  
Charlemont

Box 344  
Cheshire

Box 344  
Chester

Box 344  
Chesterfield

Box 344  
Colrain

Box 344  
Cummington

Box 344  
Dalton

2 folders  
Box 344  
Easthampton

Box 344  
Egremont

Box 344  
Erving

Box 344  
Fairview

Box 344  
Feeding Hills

Box 344  
Florence

Box 344  
Gill

Box 344  
Goshen

Box 344  
Great Barrington

Box 344  
Greenfield

2 folders  
Box 344  
Griswoldville

Box 344  
Hadley

Box 344  
Hardwick

Box 344  
Hatfield

Box 344  
Haydenville

Box 344  
Hinsdale

Box 344  
Holyoke

3 folders  
Box 344  
Housatonic

Box 344  
Hubbardston

Box 344  
Huntington

Box 344  
Lake Pleasant

Box 344  
Lanesboro

Box 344  
Lee

Box 344  
Leeds

Box 344  
Lenox

Box 344  
Leverett

Box 344  
Middlefield

Box 344  
Millers Falls

Box 344  
Mill River

Box 344  
Monroe Bridge

Box 344  
Montague

Box 344  
Monterey

Box 344  
Mt. Hermon

Box 344  
Mt. Washington

Box 344  
New Braintree

Box 344  
New Salem

Box 344  
North Adams

Box 345  
North Amherst

Box 345  
North Egremont

2 folders  
Box 345  
Northampton

2 folders  
Box 345  
Northfield

Box 345  
Otis

Box 345  
Out of District

Box 345  
Pittsfield

2 folders  
Box 345  
Richmond

Box 345  
Rowe

Box 345  
Russell

Box 345  
Sandisfield

Box 345  
Savoy

Box 345  
Sheffield

Box 345  
Shelburne Falls

Box 345  
South Deerfield

Box 345  
South Hadley

Box 345  
South Lee

Box 345  
Southfield

Box 345  
Southampton

Box 345  
Southwick

Box 345  
Stockbridge

Box 345  
Sunderland

Box 345

Turners Falls

Box 345  
Tyringham

Box 345  
Warwick

Box 345  
Wendell

Box 345  
West Cummington

Box 345  
West Springfield

2 folders  
Box 345  
West Stockbridge

Box 345  
Westfield

Box 345  
Westhampton

Box 345  
Wheelwright

Box 345  
Williamsburg

Box 345  
Williamstown

Box 345  
Windsor

Box 345  
Woronoco

Box 345  
Worthington

Box 345  
Subseries b: Index Card Files  
1959-1991  
14 card boxes

The cards are filed alphabetically by constituent last name.

This series consists of 14 boxes of index cards from the Holyoke and Pittsfield District offices. The cards span 1959-1991 and contain a record of all constituent requests: by phone, person, or mail. Each time a

constituent contacted the office, the type of request is recorded on the card, thus providing a history for each constituent.

Subseries c: Correspondence, Numbered  
1979-1991  
10 boxes, 12.5 linear ft.

In an effort to cope with the increasing amounts of incoming correspondence, Conte's office adopted an automated correspondence management system in 1979. Staff would prepare standardized responses to the letters received or expected to be received and store them in the computer to be printed upon demand.

As correspondence came in, staff would assign a unique document number to each piece of mail and index the document in a number of different ways: by subject (often multiple), correspondent's name, responding staff member, geographical location, and type of document.

The computer could sort the correspondence stored in it according to any of these identifiers and print out hard-copy lists. This made file copies of outgoing correspondence, either chronological or alphabetical, unnecessary.

Unfortunately all indexes were lost or destroyed in the haste to vacate the offices upon Conte's unexpected death. There are surviving print-outs of the indexing codes used by the office staff. These have been placed in the first box of this series.

The original 86 boxes of documents, arranged in numerical order, have been randomly sampled to reduce bulk. The 10 boxes that remain contain one of three things: constituent letters with indexing codes and office's response attached; a copy of the office's outgoing response only, or simply the constituent letter with codes.

This series documents the issues of national, state, and local concern to First District residents and the general public and Conte's response to those concerns.

## Series 2: Projects/Grants Files

Subseries a. James Ogsbury Project Files  
1987-1990  
3 boxes, 3.75 linear ft.

This series has been broken down into two subseries. Subseries a consists of three boxes created and maintained by James Ogsbury, minority staff assistant assigned to the Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development in 1989 and 1990 and the Subcommittee on HUD-Independent Agencies in 1990.

The files outline housing and energy projects implemented by the communities of the First District and pertain to both of the above subcommittees. There are Eastern Massachusetts and statewide projects as well and information on a few national housing and energy agencies. The majority of the First District projects concern county and town housing authorities, with special attention to the Holyoke Housing Authority.

Also represented are many clean water projects, such as the Boston Harbor Project, the Hoosac River Project, and the Housatonic River Project. There is also a great deal of information pertaining to erosion of the banks of the Connecticut River.

The individual folders consist primarily of reports and correspondence from the individual agencies or projects and a few speeches given by Conte.

Related series include the Energy and Water Subcommittee and HUD Subcommittee files.

Adams, MA  
1990  
Box 356  
Amesbury, MA  
1990  
Box 356  
Amherst, MA  
1989-1990  
Box 356  
Army Corps of Engineers, Berkshire County Projects  
1989-1990  
Box 356  
Ashfield, MA  
1989-1990

Box 356  
Barnes Aquifer, Westfield, MA  
1989  
Box 356  
Berkshire Housing Services Inc.  
1990  
Box 356  
Berkshire Community Action Council  
1990  
Box 356  
Berkshire County  
1989-1990  
2 folders  
Regional Housing Authority  
1989-1990  
Box 356  
Regional Planning Commission  
1990  
Box 356  
Bondi's Island, Springfield, MA  
1989  
Box 356  
Boston Harbor  
1987-1990  
Box 356  
Carnegie Commission  
1990  
2 folders  
Box 356  
Census Data  
1990  
Box 356  
Central Artery Project  
1990  
Box 356  
Champlain Pipeline Project  
1989  
Box 356  
Chester, MA  
1990  
Box 356  
Cislunar Spacecruiser  
1990  
Box 356  
Colrain, MA  
1989  
Box 356  
Connecticut River  
1989  
Box 356  
Correspondence, Energy Issues  
1989-1990  
Box 356  
Deerfield River  
1989-1990  
Box 356  
Dennison National Co.  
1988-1989  
Box 356  
Department of Energy, MA Budget Estimates  
1990  
Box 356  
Duxbury Housing Authority, SOC Honor Citation  
1990  
Box 356  
Easthampton, MA  
1989-1990  
Box 356

Environmental Health Institutes  
1990-1991  
Box 356  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1990  
Box 356  
Erving, MA  
1989  
Box 356  
Family Life Support Center, North Adams, MA  
1989  
Box 356  
Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston  
1989  
Box 356  
Florence Heights Housing Project, Florence, MA  
1989  
Box 356  
Franklin County  
1989-1990  
2 folders  
General  
1989-1990  
Box 356  
Housing Authority  
1990  
Box 356  
Gill, MA  
1989  
Box 356  
Glendale Project, Stockbridge, MA  
1989  
Box 356  
Graham Street, Gardner, MA  
1989  
Box 356  
Greenfield, MA  
1990  
Box 356  
Greylock Glen, Adams, MA  
1990  
Box 356  
Hadley, MA  
1990  
Box 356  
Hancock, MA  
1989  
Box 356  
Hatfield, MA  
1989  
Box 356  
Holy Family Housing Corp.  
1989  
Box 356  
Holyoke, MA  
1990  
10 folders  
General  
1990  
Box 356  
Housing Authority  
1990  
5 folders  
Correspondence  
1990  
Box 356  
Newspaper Articles  
1990

Box 356  
Notes and Memos  
1990  
Box 356  
Position Papers  
1990  
Box 356  
Primary Documents  
1990  
Box 356  
Hydro-Electric Project  
1989  
Box 356  
Soldier's Home  
1990  
Box 356  
Special Grant  
1990  
Box 356  
Steigers Building  
1989  
Box 356  
Hoosac River  
1989  
Box 356  
Housatonic River  
1990  
Box 356  
HUD, Massachusetts  
1990  
Box 356  
Jesse's Home, Emergency Shelter  
1989  
Box 356  
Kendall Square  
1990  
Box 357  
Kramer Scrap Inc.  
1988-1989  
Box 357  
Lanesborough, MA  
1990  
Box 357  
Lee Cogeneration Plant  
1990  
Box 357  
Lenox, MA  
1990  
Box 357  
Little River Project  
1990  
Box 357  
Massachusetts Association of Conservation Districts  
1989  
Box 357  
Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency  
1990  
Box 357  
Massachusetts Municiple Wholesale Electric Co.  
1989  
Box 357  
Millers Falls, MA  
1990  
Box 357  
Montague, MA  
1990  
Box 357  
Mortgage Bankers Association

1989  
Box 357  
Museum of Contemporary Art  
1990  
Box 357  
National Apartment Association  
1990  
Box 357  
National Association of Home Builders  
1989-1990  
Box 357  
National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials  
1988-1989  
Box 357  
New England Fuel Institutes  
1989-1990  
Box 357  
North Adams, MA  
1990  
Box 357  
Northampton, MA  
1989-1990  
3 folders  
General  
1990  
Box 357  
Homeless  
1989-1990  
Box 357  
Housing Authority  
1990  
Box 357  
Orange, MA  
1990-1991  
Box 358  
Patten & CO.  
1990  
Box 358  
Phillipston, MA  
1989  
Box 358  
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission  
1990  
Box 358  
Pittsfield, MA  
1985-1990  
3 folders  
General  
1990  
Box 358  
General Electric  
1990  
Box 358  
Urban Development Action Grant  
1985-1990  
Box 358  
Pulaski Heights Apartments, Holyoke, MA  
1990  
Box 358  
Quabbin Reservoir  
1990  
Box 358  
Riverdale Urban Development Action Grant  
1984-1989  
Box 358  
Rural Housing Inc.  
1990  
Box 358

Salvation Army  
1989  
Box 358  
Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant  
1990  
Box 358  
Shelburne, MA  
1989  
Box 358  
SOC  
1988-1990  
2 folders  
Election  
1988-1990  
Box 358  
Miscellaneous Statements and Correspondence on Energy and HUD  
1988-1990  
Box 358  
South Hadley, MA  
1988-1990  
Box 358  
Southampton, MA  
1990  
Box 358  
Southampton Meadows  
1989  
Box 358  
Southwick, MA  
1990  
Box 358  
Special Requests for Funding, VA-HUD Bill, FY 1990 and 1991

Box 358  
St. Josephs School  
1990  
Box 358  
Templeton, MA  
1990  
Box 358  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
1990  
Box 358  
Valley Program Inc.  
1990  
Box 358  
Veterans Park Apartments  
1987-1990  
Box 358  
Ware, MA  
1990  
Box 358  
Warwick, MA  
1990  
Box 358  
Western Massachusetts Community Loan Fund  
1989  
Box 358  
Westhampton, MA  
1988-1990  
Box 358  
West Springfield, MA  
1990  
Box 358  
West Stockbridge, MA  
1990  
Box 358  
Williamstown, MA

1989-1990  
Box 358  
Winchendon, MA  
1990  
Box 358  
Yankee Rowe Nuclear Power Plant  
1990  
Box 358  
Subseries b: Special Projects  
1971-1976  
2.5 linear ft.  
Berkshire Community College Grant to Establish Environmental Center Outreach Prog.  
1972  
Box 359  
Berkshire Community College Naval Ordnance Property Transfer, 197

Box 359  
Bicentennial Commission

2 folders  
First District Grants  
1973-1975  
Box 359  
Community Designations  
1974  
Box 359  
Bicentennial Projects-First District  
1975  
Box 359  
Centennial Register  
1975-1976  
Box 359  
Connecticut River Valley Recreation Area

5 folders  
General  
1970  
Box 359  
Correspondence  
1969-1971  
2 folders  
Box 359  
Interior Dept.  
1969-1970  
Box 359  
Mt. Holyoke Unit  
1970  
Box 359  
Dickey-Lincoln Hydroelectric Project

8 folders  
General  
1974  
2 folders  
Box 359  
Correspondence

2 folders  
Box 359  
Floor Action  
1965-1970  
Box 359  
Floor Materials

1974  
Box 359  
News Clippings

Box 359  
"1975 Debacle"  
1974-1975  
Box 359  
Drug Abuse  
1969  
Box 359  
Drug Seminar  
1970-1971  
Box 359  
Drugs  
1972  
Box 359  
Environmental Education Projects, Western MA  
1972-1973  
Box 359  
Gasoline  
1975  
Box 360  
Gasoline Shortage in New England, Hearings  
1973  
2 folders  
Box 360  
Hand Tool Bill  
1976  
Box 360  
Holyoke Racial Problems  
1973  
Box 360  
Hoosac River Basin, Citizens Environmental Protection Association  
1974-1975  
Box 360  
Hoosac Tunnel Project  
1972-1973  
Box 360  
Housatonic River, Army Corps. of Engineers Study  
1973-1974  
Box 360  
International Motorcycle Meet, Dalton, MA  
1973  
Box 360  
Machine Tool Amendment  
1976  
Box 360  
Northern Ireland  
1973-1974  
Box 360  
Pittsfield Federal Building

2 folders  
Box 360  
Quirico, Judge Francis J.  
1971  
Box 360  
Reapportionment  
1961  
Box 360  
Revenue Sharing

5 folders  
Correspondence

1973-1975  
Box 360  
First District Newsclips  
1972-1974  
Box 360  
Legislation  
1972-1976  
Box 360  
Notes & Background  
1972-1976  
Box 360  
Task Force  
1971  
3 folders  
Box 360  
Social Services  
1975  
Box 360  
Transformer Importation Dumping Duty

8 folders  
Correspondence  
1970-1971  
Box 360  
Correspondence, Executive  
1970-1971  
Box 360  
Dept. of Treasury Investigation  
1971  
Box 360  
IUE Breakfast  
1971  
Box 360  
Newsclippings & Press Releases

Box 360  
Sweden Problem  
1970-1971  
Box 360  
Tariff Commission  
1970-1971  
Box 360  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
1971  
Box 360  
Unemployment, Greenfield Labor Area  
1971-1972  
Box 360  
Series 3: Questionnaires  
1970-1981  
24 boxes, 30 linear ft.

Every spring Conte sent out a questionnaire to First District residents. Used to gauge public opinion and identify trends, the questionnaire covers topics of national, state, and local interest. Over the years the questionnaires queried the First District about issues such as Vietnam, the invasion of Cambodia, the proposed impeachment of Richard Nixon and the subsequent pardon by President Ford, economic policy, aid for education, foreign policy, the federal budget deficit, tax reform issues, gun control, and many other topics.

Many constituents felt the need to elaborate on their answers beyond the required either yes/no or a check. Some attached separate letters, others scribbled notes all over the questionnaire.

The 24 boxes of questionnaires in this series represent all surviving returns found in the collection and are most substantial in the years 1970-1973.

The tallied results are available for most years, usually published in the follow-up newsletter or in a press release.

Series 4: Service Academy Appointments

1960-1989

1 box

This one-box series documents Conte's function, as a member of Congress, to write letters of nomination on behalf of constituents trying to gain admittance to the Air Force, Military, Maritime, and Naval academies.

All files on individuals were destroyed to protect their privacy. Information retained includes Conte press releases announcing nominations, general information from the various academies documenting the application and nomination procedure, and summary sheets of nominees maintained by Conte's office staff.

Academies, General

1965-1982

Box MS 2

Air Force Academy

1961-1986

4 folders

Appointments

1967-1986

Box MS 2

Correspondence

1961-1985

Box MS 2

Nominations

1967-1985

Box MS 2

Vacancy Status Reports

1981-1982

Box MS 2

Civil Service Examination

1966-1970

Box MS 2

Coast Guard Academy

1960-1975

2 folders

General

1967-1975

Box MS 2

Appointment

1960

Box MS 2

Merchant Marine Academy

1959-1986

4 folders

Applications

1968

Box MS 2

Appointments

1965-1966

Box MS 2

Candidates

1986

Box MS 2

Correspondence

1959-1981

Box MS 2

Naval Academy

1960-1989

4 folders

Appointments

1967

Box MS 2

Correspondence

1961-1983

Box MS 2

Nominations

1960-1985

Box MS 2

Vacancy Status Reports

1986-1989  
Box MS 2  
Press Releases  
1972-1989  
Box MS 2  
Sample Letters to Academy Candidates  
ca.1960-1969  
Box MS 2  
Summary Sheets  
1982-1988  
Box MS 2  
West Point Academy  
1966-1986  
4 folders  
Appointments  
1966-1967  
Box MS 2  
Correspondence  
1975-1986  
Box MS 2  
Nominations  
1967-1985  
Box MS 2  
Visit of Staff with Counselors  
1968  
Box MS 2  
Series 5: Case Files  
1958-1990  
over 200 boxes

In order to protect the privacy of the individuals involved, access to these files is restricted for a period of 75 years.

This voluminous series comprises over two hundred boxes. The files consist of requests from constituents for assistance with problems most often concerning the federal government. The cases can be divided into six major types: immigration and naturalization, social security, veterans, military (transfers, discharges), tax problems, unemployment and worker's compensation.

#### Subgroup V. Office Administration

Series 1: Pat Larkin Files (Administrative Asst.)  
1980-1991  
4 boxes, 5 linear ft.

Patrick Larkin's long career with Conte began in 1979 when he became office manager of the Pittsfield district office. In 1981 he became Administrative Assistant in the Washington, D.C. office where he would remain until Conte's death in 1991.

This series reveals the diverse range of duties performed by Larkin. He fulfilled many roles including staff director, public relations contact, legislative specialist, caseworker, campaign worker, and speechwriter.

The files contain correspondence, memoranda, newsclippings, legislative reference material, campaign materials, and handwritten notes. The original boxes were labeled "Pat Larkin's misc. files" and document the seemingly routine duties of his position. Many of the files are incomplete: some contain only newsclippings, or handwritten notes, other files contain correspondence, internal office memos, and background reports.

The records reveal Larkin's duty to oversee key legislative issues and monitor Conte's political standing both locally and nationally on current issues such as the Persian Gulf War, abortion, acid rain, the capital gains tax, the budget deficit, and nuclear disarmament.

He monitored local federal projects and grants: two examples include the HHS grant to the Holyoke Health Center to combat high infant mortality rates in Holyoke, and an Urban Development Grant to the Hotel Northampton.

There is a file on a visit to the First District by Barbara Bush, files on Conte's birthday party, and a Channel 57 roast of Conte and fellow Congressman Ed Boland. There are files relating to the controversy over the proposed construction of communication towers in Hawley and Amherst.

As Conte's right-hand man, Larkin was responsible for handling the more sensitive correspondence and telephone calls; he negotiated with constituents, colleagues, and lobbyists. For example, the files contain angry constituent complaints, requests for job recommendations, assistance with governmental appointments, requests from Conte's personal friends and colleagues for sporting event tickets, and correspondence from First District business and industry asking for Conte's intervention in zoning regulations, obtaining contracts, and securing federal grants. The "public" nature of a congressperson's job is revealed in these files by the abundance of background materials and invitations related to the arrangement of numerous receptions, dedications, inductions, banquets, fundraisers, commencements, roasts, and assorted other public relations moments typical of Conte's schedule.

Abortion  
1989  
Box 385  
Acid Rain  
1990  
Box 385  
Acoustical Screens, Holyoke  
1989  
Box 385  
Adams, Town of, Farmers Home Housing  
1982  
Box 385  
Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Committee appointment (ASCS)  
1990  
Box 385  
ASCS State Committee

Box 385  
ASCS State Committee, Thomas Molitoris  
1988  
Box 385  
Allied Corporation Sellout, Greenfield  
1984  
Box 385  
American Cup Races  
1983  
Box 385  
Appropriation Committee Appointments

Box 385  
Arnold Print Works, Information

Box 385  
Asbestos File  
1989  
Box 385  
Assigned Speeches  
1984  
Box 385  
Athol

Box 385  
Atlantic Salmon Commission  
1981  
Box 385  
Autobiography Proposal  
1987  
Box 385  
Avalon School, Lenox, MA  
1984  
Box 385  
Award, Civic Achievement  
1987  
Box 385  
Award, Neurofibromatosis

1988  
Box 385  
Award, Public Service Pi Sigma Alpha

Box 385  
Balanced Budget  
1990  
Box 385  
Bank of Boston

Box 385  
Bank of New England

Box 385  
Baseball Notes

Box 385  
Berkshire Life  
1990  
Box 385  
Birthday, Party Notes  
1987  
Box 385  
Birthday Party, SOC  
1989  
Box 385  
Blind Unit

Box 385  
Blythewood Sewers

Box 385  
Boland, Edward

Box 385  
Boston College  
1990  
Box 385  
Boston College Alumni Notes  
1985  
Box 385  
Boston College Bill

Box 385  
Boston College Loan, H.R. 3661  
1988  
Box 385  
Boston College Tax

Box 385  
Boston University Advisory Council  
1982  
Box 385  
Boston University, L-HHS-ED Bill  
1986  
Box 385  
Boynton, Joe

Box 385  
Broadcast Deregulation, H.R. 1195  
1987  
Box 385  
Budget  
1990  
Box 385  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms  
1982  
Box 385  
Bush, Barbara, Visit to 1st District  
1989  
Box 385  
Butkin Precision Manufacturing Corporation

Box 385  
Buy American  
1987  
Box 385  
Calvin Coolidge  
1989  
Box 385  
Calvin Coolidge Archives

Box 385  
Campaign, SOC's Basic Speech  
1980  
Box 385  
Campaign, 1988, "Pats"

Box 385  
Campaign  
1990  
Box 385  
Campaign, Sharpeners

Box 385  
Candidate for Congress  
1984  
Box 385  
Capital Gains Vote  
1989  
Box 385  
Capitol Hill Club  
1990  
Box 385  
Catastrophic Health Care  
1987  
Box 385  
Census Data  
1990  
Box 385  
Center for Applied Technology

Box 385  
Centers of Excellence  
1990  
Box 385  
Channel 57, Conte & Boland Roast, Springfield, MA  
1987  
Box 385  
Charity Golf Tournament  
1986

Box 385  
Children's Museum  
1983  
Box 385  
Chinch's notes

Box 385  
Christopher Columbus  
1990  
Box 385  
Clippings, Various  
1990  
Box 385  
Committee assignments  
1982  
Box 385  
Committee & sub-committee, schedule information  
1981  
Box 385  
Committee Preference Sheet

Box 385  
Conflict of Interest (tax bill vote)  
1984  
Box 385  
Congressional Hispanic Congress  
1982  
Box 385  
Conte, Gayle  
1987  
Box 385  
Conte Record  
1988  
Box 385  
Corps. of Engineer, Ed Denise

Box 385  
Correspondence, important letters sent to SOC  
1981  
Box 385  
Correspondence, miscellaneous  
1981  
Box 385  
Cranberries (Ocean Spray)  
1985  
Box 385  
Cranberry Juices, Juice Labeling Regulation  
1986  
Box 385  
Crane & Co., Social Security Cards  
1983  
Box 385  
Daily Requests from SOC

Box 386  
Decorating Den  
1989  
Box 386  
Dennison National Co.  
1988  
Box 386  
Department of Labor regional office closure  
1985  
Box 386

DeRoy Baby  
1987  
Box 386  
Dinn Brothers  
1987  
Box 386  
Disaster  
1984  
Box 386  
Double-Dipping  
1981  
Box 386  
Drug Bill Notes  
1988-1989  
Box 386  
Duxbury Housing Authority  
1989  
Box 386  
Eastern League Russian Tour  
1989  
Box 386  
Editorials, Washington Post, Reagan budget cut  
1980  
Box 386  
Egremont Condo's  
1987  
Box 386  
El Salvador  
1981  
Box 386  
Environmental Health Institutes  
1990  
Box 386  
Farm Credit Problems

Box 386  
Father Frank Parker  
1987  
Box 386  
Florida File

Box 386  
Food Stamp Letter  
1981  
Box 386  
Fortieth Anniversary of the 104th

Box 386  
Fountain Plating, 30 mm Gatling Gun

Box 386  
Fourth of July  
1990  
Box 386  
Federicks Rubber Company  
1988  
Box 386  
Fuel Control System  
1988  
Box 386  
General Electric  
1987  
Box 386  
General Electric, Hazardous Waste

1988  
Box 386  
Golf Jokes

Box 386  
Graham Rudman Hollings  
1986  
Box 386  
Graham Street Clippings  
1989  
Box 386  
Greylock Glen  
1989  
Box 386  
Grinspoon\_Asbestos  
1989  
Box 386  
Ground Wave Emergency Network  
1985  
Box 386  
Guilford  
1990  
Box 386  
Gullumi Equipment  
1989  
Box 386  
Gypsum Utilities  
1988  
Box 386  
Gypsy Moth Activities  
1982  
Box 386  
Hall of Fame, Carl Yastremski Induction  
1989  
Box 386  
Hammer, Armand  
1988  
Box 386  
Hampden District Regional Skills Center  
1981  
Box 386  
Hawley, Town of, Air Force Antenna Farm  
1985  
Box 386  
Hawley, Pat's file  
1985  
Box 386  
High Tech Working Group  
1985  
Box 386  
Hiler Amendment  
1988  
Box 386  
Hillcrest Education Centers  
1988  
Box 386  
Holyoke Health Center  
1988  
Box 386  
Holyoke Media Collaborative  
  
Box 386  
Homestead (Red Sox Baseball) Complex  
1990  
Box 386  
Howard University Brochure

1989  
Box 386  
Hoyer & Horse Races  
1989  
Box 386  
Human Rights  
1985  
Box 386  
Icebreakers

Box 386  
Impact Aid

Box 386  
Inaugural  
1985  
Box 386  
Inaugural Reception  
1988  
Box 386  
Industrial Base  
1981  
Box 386  
Infantry Fighting Vehicle Trip Report  
1981  
Box 386  
Infantry Fighting Vehicle Bradley  
1986  
Box 386  
Instrument Technology  
1987  
Box 386  
International Institutes for Energy Conservation Fundraiser  
1985  
Box 386  
Israel, Aid to  
1983  
Box 386  
Issues Symposium  
1980  
Box 386  
Issues  
1986  
Box 386  
Italy  
1988  
Box 386  
James Hunter Machine Company, Clippings  
1983  
Box 386  
JFK Workshop Correspondence  
1985  
Box 386  
Jewish National Fund  
1988  
Box 386  
The Judge  
1988-1989  
Box 386  
Judges  
1986-1987  
Box 386  
Kernan Report  
1988  
Box 386  
Keverian Fundraiser

1982  
Box 386  
Jim Kulikowski Party  
1988  
Box 386  
Labor, H.R. 1743, Workroom for Design  
1982  
Box 386  
Lee High School Hockey Team visit to U.S.S.R.  
1984  
Box 386  
Lenox Green Project  
1988  
Box 386  
Litton Industries, Athol, MA  
1984  
Box 386  
Malt Beverage Interbrand Comp. Act  
1981-1983  
Box 387  
MA Prevailing Wage Law  
1988  
Box 387  
MA Voter Registration Partnership  
1989  
Box 387  
Mass Maritime Academy  
1988  
Box 387  
McDade, Joseph, Small Business Committee  
1988  
Box 387  
Memos sent to SOC  
1981  
Box 387  
Memos sent to the district  
1981  
Box 387  
Memos sent from the district  
1981  
Box 387  
Mexico City  
1985  
Box 387  
Michelson, Abe, line item veto  
1989  
Box 387  
MIA/POW Letters  
1981  
Box 387  
Military compensation  
1980  
Box 387  
Military draft, MX missile  
1981  
Box 387  
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Box 388  
Windsor Mill  
1988  
Box 388  
Yaro Center for Rural MA  
1989  
Box 388  
Series 2: Miscellaneous Office Materials, Telephone Logs & Guest Books  
1959-1990  
1 box, 1.25 linear ft.

Series 2 documents a very small portion of the record-keeping functions of Conte's Pittsfield Office, and also contains the Federal Records Center inventory sheets 1959-1990. The Pittsfield Office records include eight telephone message books, from 1968, 1969, 1979 and undated; an address book, early 1960s; and two guest books from 1968-1970.

The Federal Records Center inventory sheets prepared by aides contain a box list of all materials shipped to the Suitland, MD facility for courtesy storage. The inventories reflect the evolving filing systems used by staff and help one to understand the organization of the office.

## **Administrative information**

### **Access**

The Silvio O. Conte Papers are open for research, except for a group of case files that are closed for a period of seventy-five years for legal reasons of confidentiality and privacy.

Inquiries regarding the Conte Papers should be addressed to Special Collections and University Archives in the W.E.B. Du Bois Library. Because the papers are stored off-site there may be up to a twenty four hour delay between request and retrieval of material. Photocopying and publishing from the collection are allowed subject to the policies of Special Collections and University Archives and fair use under the copyright act.

A note on limits on use

### **Provenance**

Following the death in office of Silvio O. Conte in 1991, his widow, Corinne Conte, donated his congressional papers to the University of Massachusetts Amherst, located in Congressman Conte's First District, which he represented for over 31 years. The Conte Papers came to the University in two major installments. The first and larger group arrived in the Spring of 1991 directly from the Federal Records Center in Suitland, Maryland, where the records had regularly been sent by office staff since 1967.

The second installment came from Conte's Washington, D.C. office and the Holyoke and Pittsfield District offices -- hastily packed by staff in order to vacate the premises after his death. Three minor installments can be counted as well. In July 1994 a visit by the project archivist to Conte's eldest daughter's barn yielded several boxes of biographical and press-related files. The arrival of fifty missing scrapbooks from the Conte family complemented the twenty-eight already here. And, a shipment of eight boxes of Appropriations Committee files arrived as a result of the change in majority party in Congress (and consequently a housecleaning) following the November 1994 elections.

### **Additional Finding Aids Available**

The several long lists excluded from the printed guide as described in the Guide's Scope and Contents note are available in the Special Collections and University Archives Reading Room, W.E.B. Du Bois Library. An electronic version of the printed guide is available to be searched by keyword, and audio-visual materials have been indexed within a database with additional name and subject terms.

### **Related Material**

For materials relating to Silvio O. Conte and his contributions to the Small Business Committee, see: William J. Angelo Papers, MS 441

### **Separated Material**

A few documents were sent to the National Archives for declassification.

### **Processing Information**

Processed by Gail L. Giroux, with assistance from, Linda L. Seidman, Patrick Browne, Jared Crellin, Peter Fairman, Paul Fireman, Beth Jones, Elaine Parmett, and Peter Weis, 1995.

### **Language:**

English

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## **Copyright and Use ([More information](#) )**

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Cite as: Silvio O. Conte Papers (MS 371). Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries.

## **Search terms**

### **Subjects**

- Massachusetts--Politics and government--1951- .
- Massachusetts. General Court. Senate.
- United States. Congress. House.
- United States. Congress. House. Committee on Appropriations.
- United States. Congress. House. Committee on Small Business.

### **Contributors**

- Conte, Silvio O. (Silvio Ottavio), 1921-1991 [main entry]

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- Photographs.
- Speeches.

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