

Preface

This oral history with Charles E. (Chuck) Ludlam covers his public service career, from his first summer internship on the Hill with the Stanford in Government Program in 1965, through his retirement in 2005. Chuck Ludlam served as a trial attorney at the Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission (1972-1975); counsel to the Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Subcommittee on Separation of Powers, Senate Judiciary Committee (1975-1979); legal counsel to the Carter White House Domestic Policy Staff (1979-1981); legal counsel to the Joint Economic Committee (1982-1985); chief tax counsel to the Senate Small Business Committee (1985-1993); and counsel to Senator Joseph I. Lieberman (2001-2005). He was also a consultant to the Alliance for Justice (1981-1982); counsel at Musick, Peeler and Garrett (1981-1982); and vice president for government relations at Biotechnology Industry Organization (1993-2000).

Born on January 1, 1945, in Pennsylvania, he was raised in California. He graduated from Stanford University with a B.A. in 1967, and from the University of Michigan Law School with a J.D. in 1972. He served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Nepal (1968-1970), and following his retirement in June 2005 he and his wife, Paula Hirschhoff, then returned to the Peace Corps as volunteers in Senegal (2005-2007).

This oral history focuses on Chuck Ludlam's work on a wide variety of legislation and issues:

- * The Ethics in Government Act, particularly the Senate Legal Counsel and civil subpoena enforcement provisions (Public Law 95-521)
- * The Alaska Pipeline litigation (1970-1975)
- * The Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act (Public Law 94-435)
- * Airline Noise bill (H.R. 8729 and S. 3279)
- * Organizational Conflict of Interest law (Public Law 95-70)
- * Regulatory Flexibility Act (Public law 96-354)
- * Tax-Exempt Bonds for Hospitals and Schools (Public Law 97-248)
- * Natural Resource Subsidies bill (H.R. 3398 and Public Law 98-573)
- * Venture Capital Gains Incentive (Public Law 103-66)
- * Patent Reform Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-113)
- * Ganske Amendment (Public Law 104-208)
- * Genetic Discrimination law (Public Law 104-191)
- * Orphan Drug Tax Credit (Public Law 104-188 and 105-34)
- * NIH Reasonable Price Reviews (1973-1974)
- * Embryonic Stem Cells Debate (1997-1998)
- * Project BioShield Act (Public Law 108-276)
- * Honest Government Accounting Act (S. 1915)
- * Assets for the Poor legislation (S. 476 and H.R. 7)

- * U.S.-China Cultural Engagement legislation (S. 1117)
- * Economic Impact of Global Demographics project
- * Disincentives for Volunteering in the Peace Corps
- * Industrial Policy Initiatives (1983-present)
- * Justice Department Representation of COINTELPRO Defendants (1978)
- * Bad Debt Deductions for Unpaid Child Support legislation (S. 2514)
- * Incentives for Cash Profit Sharing legislation (S. 932)
- * Providing Liquidity for Net Operating Losses legislation (S. 1049)
- * Stock Option Accounting legislation (S. 2877)

Chuck Ludlam provided extensive notes for many of the individuals and issues discussed in his interviews. He recounts some colorful tales, and provides background on Senators Jim Abourezk, Phillip Hart, Robert Byrd, Jim Allen, Dale Bumpers, and Joseph Lieberman; Congressmen Burt Talcott, Glen Lipscomb, and Gillis Long; and Senate Parliamentarian Murray Zweben. This history highlights the crucial role of dozens of senior Capitol Hill staff. The oral history provides insights into the lifestyle, skills, and tactics of a senior Capitol Hill staffer who has fought in the political trenches over a forty-year period