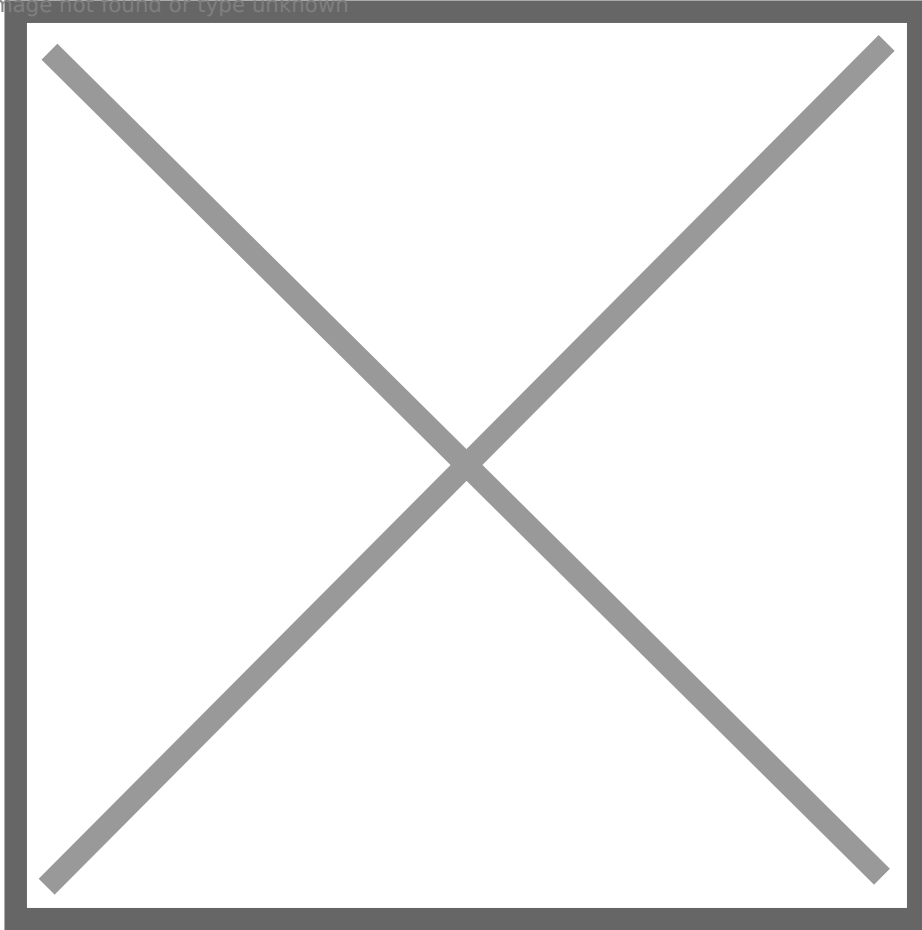


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Pamela Needham Files, 1974-1975

Collection Type

White House Office Files

Extent

4 linear feet (ca. 8,000 pages)

Record Type

Textual

Access

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Processed by

Dale Harley Whitaker, June 1980

Scope and Content Note

Pamela Needham came to the White House as a summer intern while attending Mount Holyoke College. Later, she returned as a member of the speech writers' research staff. Needham was promoted to Director of Research before joining the Domestic Council.

In 1973, Pamela Needham was appointed Staff Assistant for Health, Social Security and Welfare in the Human Resources area of the Domestic Council. Under the supervision of Associate Director James H. Cavanaugh, she coordinated fact-finding analyses on health, social security and welfare issues. She attained the position of Assistant Director before departing in June 1975.

In 1973, Pamela Needham was appointed Staff Assistant for Health, Social Security and Welfare in the Human Resources area of the Domestic Council. Under the supervision of Associate Director James H. Cavanaugh, she coordinated fact-finding analyses on health, social security and welfare issues. She attained the position of Assistant Director before departing in June 1975.

As Assistant Director, Needham assembled information, drafted issue statements and handled referrals. The memoranda, reports and publications in this collection reveal that Needham's duties also entailed reviewing proposals, arranging meetings and coordinating the flow of information between the White House staff, departments and interest groups.

Needham helped to formulate policies by conducting pre-State of the Union investigations on welfare reform and national health insurance. The material on welfare reform exemplifies the manner in which the alternatives to domestic policies were evaluated. The memoranda indicate how Needham outlined the impact of options being considered by the Administration. The support and opposition to aspects of welfare reform policies were identified for the White House staff and the President.

Financing the social security program is the major topic in the social security files. The Advisory Council on Social Security furnished much of the background material and recommendations for revising the social security program.

Consumer issues also were assigned to Needham. She compiled information on consumer regulatory reform for the White House staff. Needham's files contain materials on a proposed legislative program for the 94th Congress aimed at improving representation of consumer interests.

There are documents in Needham's files dating from the Nixon Administration which focus on welfare reform and Aid to Families with Dependent Children. After June 1975, Sarah C. Massengale inherited Needham's duties concerning health, social security and welfare. Dawn Bennett-Alexander assumed responsibility for consumer affairs which Needham had managed.

Related Materials (June 1980)

Related collections include White House Central Files Subject File categories HE (Health), BE (Business) and WE (Welfare). Other Domestic Council collections containing materials on topics handled by Needham include the files of Spencer Johnson, Sarah Massengale, and Dawn Bennett-Alexander.

Last Modified Date

2025-12-23

Health Files, 1974-75.

(Boxes 1-2, 0.8 linear feet)

Correspondence, memoranda, publications, reports, and proposals. These files include material on abortion, high blood pressure, health care management, and population. There are memoranda on the Population Commission and budget notes on financing research to study population growth. There also are correspondence on national health insurance and a proposal from a Health Maintenance Organization in New Jersey.

Arranged alphabetically by subject and thereunder chronologically.

Box 1 - Health Files

Status	Title
OPEN	Abortion
OPEN	American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons - Committee on Injuries (Published Report)
OPEN	California Hospital Association - Government Regulations (Publications)
OPEN	Center for Community Economic Development - Title VII Program
OPEN	Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions - Medicine (Publications)
OPEN	Citizens for the Treatment of High Blood Pressure, Inc. - Publications (1)-(3)
OPEN	Department of Health, Education and Welfare Reports
OPEN	Health Care Management Systems, Inc. - Computer Projects (1)-(2)

Box 2 - Health Files

Status	Title
OPEN	Health Maintenance Organization Office, Morristown, NJ (1)-(3)
OPEN	National Board on Graduate Education (Publications)
OPEN	National Geriatric Society (Published Report)

Status	Title
OPEN	Population
OPEN	Population Commission (1)-(2)
OPEN	President's Committee on Health Education (Publication)

Social Security Files, 1974-75.

(Boxes 3-5, 1.0 linear feet)

Reports, memoranda, correspondence, and publications. Topics include long-term care in nursing homes and comments and recommendations about federal activities made by the Congressional Black Caucus. Minutes of meetings of the Advisory Council on Social Security give a review of the issues concerning the Administration.

Arranged alphabetically by subject and thereunder chronologically.

Box 3 - Social Security Files

Status	Title
OPEN	Actuarial Audit of the Social Security System
OPEN	Advisory Council on Social Security (1)-(2)
OPEN	Advisory Council on Social Security - 1975 Reports (1)-(2)
OPEN	Cohen, Wilbur J. - Financing Social Security
OPEN	Conference on Inflation - Summary, 9/19-20/74
OPEN	Congressional Black Caucus Position Statements (1)-(2)

Box 4 - Social Security Files

Status	Title
OPEN	Congressional Black Caucus Position Statements (3)-(5)
OPEN	Department of Health, Education and Welfare Newsletter
OPEN	Department of Health, Education and Welfare Organizational Structure
OPEN	Domestic Council Issue Review Meeting, 12/11/74
OPEN	Domestic Policy Initiatives
OPEN	Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund - Annual Report

Status	Title
OPEN	Federal Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance Trust Funds - Annual Report
OPEN	Federal Supplemental Medical Insurance Trust Fund - Annual Report
OPEN	Historical Description of the Social Security Program
OPEN	Miscellaneous
OPEN	Nursing Homes - Long Term Care Under Medicaid and Medicare
OPEN	Senior Citizens Conference, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, 7/22/74
OPEN	Social Security Administration - Annual Report, 1974

Box 5 - Social Security Files

Status	Title
OPEN	Social Security Benefits and Taxes (Published Speech)
OPEN	Social Security Cash Benefits Program
OPEN	Social Security Financing
OPEN	Social Security for Homemakers
OPEN	Social Security Legislation: Copy of Printed Bill (1)-(2)
OPEN	Social Security Policy Issues
OPEN	Social Security Program - Problems

Welfare Files, 1974-75.

(Boxes 5-7, 0.8 linear feet)

Correspondence, memoranda, newsclippings, and talking points. These files include material on social experiments to test the effects of a negative income tax and the Income Supplement Program. The objectives of welfare reform are stated in the talking points.

Arranged alphabetically by subject and thereunder chronologically.

Box 5 (Continued) - Welfare Files

Status	Title
OPEN	Aid to Families with Dependent Children

Status	Title
OPEN	California's Blueprint for Welfare Reform
OPEN	Experiments - Income Maintenance/Negative Income Tax (Published Articles)
OPEN	Experiments - New Jersey Graduated Work Incentive (Published Reports)
OPEN	Income Supplement Program (ISP)
OPEN	Michigan - General Correspondence
OPEN	Michigan - House of Representatives - Welfare Reform (Published Report)

Box 6 - Welfare Files

Status	Title
OPEN	Michigan - Welfare Work Incentives (Published Study)
OPEN	Miscellaneous
OPEN	Nathan, Richard - Federal Income Security Policy
OPEN	National Health Insurance and Health Maintenance Organizations
OPEN	Newspaper Clippings
OPEN	Supplemental Security Income - Issue Paper
OPEN	Tax Bill
OPEN	Welfare Correspondence
OPEN	Welfare Reform
OPEN	Welfare Reform - Background Material
OPEN	Welfare Reform - State of the Union Policy Issues
OPEN	Welfare Reform - Talking Points
OPEN	Welfare Replacement
OPEN	Welfare Replacement Proposal (1)

Box 7 - Welfare Files

Status	Title
OPEN	Welfare Replacement Proposal (2)
OPEN	Welfare Replacement - State of the Union Policy Issues

General Subject Files, 1974-75.

(Boxes 7-9, 0.8 linear feet)

Publications, news articles, handwritten notes, memoranda, and correspondence. There are various publications on Project Head Start and correspondence on proposed legislative programs to be incorporated into a Presidential Consumer Message to the Congress.

Arranged alphabetically by subject and thereunder chronologically.

Box 7 (Continued) - General Subject Files

Status	Title
OPEN	Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (Published Report)
OPEN	Consumer Affairs - Proposed Legislation for the 94th Congress
OPEN	Consumer Message to Congress (1)-(2)
OPEN	Consumer Policies
OPEN	Consumer Protection
OPEN	Consumer Reform
OPEN	Consumer Representation Act of 1975 - Options

Box 8 - General Subject Files

Status	Title
OPEN	Consumer Representation by Executive Order
OPEN	Council of Economic Advisers - Published Report on Economic Developments and Policies
OPEN	National Health Insurance
OPEN	Presidential Leadership on Consumer Issues
OPEN	Project Head Start - Publications (1)-(5)

Box 9 - General Subject Files

Status	Title
OPEN	Project Head Start - Publications (6)
OPEN	Regulatory Reform
OPEN	Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs - Published Congressional Reports (1)-(3)

Chronological Files, 1974-75.

(Boxes 9-10, 0.6 linear feet)

Correspondence, memoranda, talking points, referrals and responses, invitations, and schedule proposals. General topics of discussion include: consumer protection, a program proposal for farmworkers, meetings, and health (cancer, aging, and abortion). Replies to letters addressed to the President were prepared by Needham. Summaries of research on special issues are included in these files.

Arranged chronologically.

Box 9 (Continued) - Chronological Files

Status	Title
OPEN	August - November 1974

Box 10 - Chronological Files

Status	Title
OPEN	December 1974 - June 1975