

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Representative Barbara Flynn Currie

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Educational Reform Act of 1985 Oral History project

Interview # E85-A-L-2014-025

Representative Barbara Flynn Currie, an Illinois House of Representative member involved in the passage of Illinois's 1985 Educational Reform Act, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Education is Key-Educational Reform Act of 1985* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: August 6, 2014 Location: Rep. Currie's District Office, Chicago, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:01 / 1.02 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on October 15, 2014.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

Interview being
processed

© 2014 Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Abstract

Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie, *Educational Reform Act of 1985*, E85-A-L-2014-025

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Barbara Flynn Currie was born in Lacrosse, Wisconsin in May, 1940. She grew up on the near south side of Chicago and graduated from the University of Chicago High School in 1958. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Chicago in 1972. She has done part-time University teaching and has been a State Representative in the Illinois House of Representatives since 1979. She has been one of the leaders of the Democratic Party caucus for many years. Currently, she serves on the important House Rules and House Revenue Committees. Interests of hers have been early childhood education, civil rights legislation, and women and poverty issues. She also had an interest in educational policy due to the fact that her father was a University of Chicago Professor and her mother was a middle school teacher.

Representative Currie discusses her involvement in the early childhood legislation which was part of the 1985 Educational Reform Act. This helped create the Prekindergarten At-Risk Program and allowed for the reimbursement of full day kindergarten programs in Illinois. She also covers its transition over the three decades following in bill's passage.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Educational Act of 1985; Illinois State legislature; English as 2nd Language Learners; Adult Basic Education programs; GED programs; Adult literacy; Youth services; strategies to improve retention and academic performance.

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

COPYRIGHT

The following material can be used for educational and other non-commercial purposes without the written permission of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. "Fair use" criteria of Section 107 of the Copyright Act of 1976 must be followed. These materials are not to be deposited in other repositories, nor used for resale or commercial purposes without the authorization from the Audio-Visual Curator at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. 6th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Telephone (217) 785-7955