



**Guide to the John O. Pastore papers  
1921-1978**

Phillips Memorial Library, Special and Archival Collections  
1 Cunningham Square  
Providence, RI 02918-0001

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## Collection Overview

<b>Creator:</b>	John O. Pastore
<b>Title:</b>	John O. Pastore papers
<b>Dates:</b>	1921-1978
<b>Quantity:</b>	133 box(es) (199.5 linear feet)
<b>Abstract:</b>	The papers of John O. Pastore, U. S. Senator from Rhode Island (1950-1976), consists of his political correspondence, news clippings, reports, campaign and public speeches, press releases, and photographs.
<b>Identification:</b>	rppc_pastore
<b>Language:</b>	The records are in English.
<b>Repository:</b>	Phillips Memorial Library, Special and Archival Collections 1 Cunningham Square Providence, RI 02918-0001

## Biographical Information

John O. Pastore (1907-2000) played a pivotal role in both state and national politics during the middle of the 20th century. Pastore was born on March 17, 1907 in Providence, Rhode Island. He studied law at Northeastern University, graduating in 1931 and was admitted to the bar in 1932.

After a few years of practicing law in Providence, Pastore won his first election in 1935 as a member of the Rhode Island House of Representatives and never lost an election throughout his entire political career. Pastore served as the assistant attorney general of Rhode Island from 1937-1938 and again from 1940-1944 before assuming the office of the Governor of Rhode Island in 1945, succeeding J. Howard McGrath.

In 1950, following the resignation of McGrath, Pastore was elected as a Democrat, winning a seat in the United States Senate where he would serve until his retirement in 1976. In retirement Pastore returned to Rhode Island where he continued to serve as a statesman for the Democratic Party and became involved in the local business community.

Pastore was the first Italian-American Governor and U.S. Senator in the nation and this played a major role in his actions at the local, state and national level. At the state and local level, Pastore, coming from an ethnic background, was no stranger to the suffering brought on by the Great Depression and the many obstacles faced by the ethnic communities of Rhode Island. Recognizing the needs of his constituents, Pastore worked hard to create greater economic and political opportunities for these groups. At the national level he continued his lobbying to strengthen Rhode Island's industrial base, especially the fading textile industry, and by introducing legislation that promoted the well-being of many ethnic groups.

During his tenure as Senator, Pastore was very involved in both the Kennedy and Johnson administrations and had significant influence on policy and committee decisions. He was an avid supporter of Great Society legislation, was central to the passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and during that same year he delivered a widely popular keynote address for the Democratic National Convention--often called "The Speech Heard Round the World."

Some of Pastore's most notable achievements came from his active role in the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy where he supported the peaceful use of atomic energy and aided in the passage of the 1963 Limited Nuclear Test Ban and the 1969 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaties. Pastore was also very involved in the Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Communications where he advocated for the 1962 establishment of the Communications Satellite Corporation and the 1967 Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Known for his height (5'4"), his booming voice and passion for helping those he represented, Pastore quickly became one of Rhode Island's most popular, influential and respected figures. At the age of 93, Pastore passed away on July 15, 2000.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The collection of John O. Pastore (1907-2000) highlights a long career in public service at the state and national level, spanning from his time as Rhode Island State Representative, Rhode Island Assistant Attorney General, Governor of Rhode Island, and United States Senator.

The bulk of the collection deals with the later part of his years in Washington. This material consists of documents on Committee service (e.g., Joint Committee on Atomic Energy and Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Communications), public and private speeches, significant correspondence with prominent political figures and organizational leaders, legislative reports, congressional records, election materials, and photographs.

### **Arrangement**

The collection is arranged into ten series, with each series arranged chronologically. The series containing the News Clippings and Subject Files are arranged alphabetically.

### **Index Terms**

Researchers wishing to find materials related to this collection should search the library catalog using these index terms - - View the catalog record for this collection.

### **Names**

Eisenhower, Dwight D. (Dwight David), 1890-1969.  
Fogarty, John Edward, 1913-1967  
Forand, Aime´ Joseph, 1895-1972  
Green, Theodore Francis, 1867-1966  
Humphrey, Hubert H. (Hubert Horatio), 1911-1978  
Johnson, Lyndon B. (Lyndon Baines), 1908-1973  
Kefauver, Estes, 1903-1963.  
Kennedy, Edward Moore, 1932-  
Kennedy, John F. (John Fitzgerald), 1917-1963  
Kennedy, Robert F., 1925-1968  
McGrath, J. Howard (James Howard), 1903-1966  
Muskie, Edmund S., 1914-1996  
Pastore, John O. (John Orlando), 1907-  
Pell, Claiborne, 1918-  
Smith, Margaret Chase, 1897-1995  
Truman, Harry S., 1884-1972

### **Subjects**

Democratic National Committee (U.S.)  
Governors -- Rhode Island  
Rhode Island -- Politics and government -- 1865-1950  
Rhode Island -- Politics and government -- 1951-

United States -- Politics and government -- 1936-1966

## **Administrative Information**

### **Custodial History**

The collection was acquired and maintained by John O. Pastore prior to its donation to Providence College.

### **Preferred Citation**

John O. Pastore papers, Providence College, Phillips Memorial Library, Special and Archival Collections.

### **Acquisitions Information**

The collection was acquired and maintained by John O. Pastore during his career. Subsequently when John O. Pastore retired from Congress he donated his papers in 1978 to Providence College.

### **Processing Information**

The collection was processed by Emma E. Reilly in the Spring of 2018.

Please note the inventory for this collection is described at the Series level. The inventory list for the News Clippings, Speeches and Subject Files are described at the box level.

### **Restrictions**

Open for research.

Some materials may be restricted. For further information contact Special and Archival Collections, Phillips Memorial Library, Providence College.

Terms governing use and reproduction: Photocopying and scanning of materials is a fee based service available in the repository and is allowed at the discretion of the Librarian of Special and Archival Collections when in compliance to the College's policy on copyright and publication.

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Certain restrictions may be imposed to protect the confidentiality of living individuals.

### **Related Material**

The Biographical Directory of the United States Congress website maintains a list of additional research sources on John O. Pastore that are available for researchers.

For a biography about Pastore by Ruth S. Morgenthau see: *Pride without prejudice: the life of John O. Pastore*

To hear Pastore speaking as Chairman of the Public Television Hearings about the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967 and the Educational Television Facilities Act of 1962 visit the: American Archive of Public Broadcasting.

There are no known separated materials from this collection.

## Inventory

**Series:** Biographical Information

**Dates:** 1921-1968

**Extent:** 2 box(es) (1 linear feet)

**Material types:**

### Scope and Content Note

This series contains some of Pastore's more personal documents and materials. Included are his Bar Association certificate, family correspondence, certificates of office and tributes to Pastore following his retirement in 1976.

### Arrangement

There is no particular arrangement to this series.

**Series:** Congressional Records

**Dates:** 1951-1976

**Extent:** 2 box(es)

**Material types:**

**Scope and Content Note**

This series contains copies of the congressional records in which Pastore had involvement.

**Arrangement**

This series is arranged chronologically.

**Series:** Elections

**Dates:** 1944-1976

**Extent:** 4 box(es)

**Material types:**

**Scope and Content Note**

This series contains election material beginning with Pastore's tenure as Governor of Rhode Island and ending with his retirement in 1976 from the U.S. Senate. The series includes news clippings, tapes and films from the National and State level of speeches, advertising, photographs, correspondence and voting records.

**Arrangement**

This series is arranged chronologically.



**Series:** Memorabilia

**Dates:**

**Extent:** 27 box(es)

**Material types:**

**Scope and Content Note**

This series contains items of memorabilia from Pastore's years in office. The series primarily consists of oversized items, including photographs and certificates, scrapbooks containing news clippings, original prints of political cartoons, photograph albums, plaques, and awards.

Other notable materials include a 48 Star U.S. Flag, the Rhode Island State Flag, materials from the Atomic Energy Commission's Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty of 1963 and memorabilia from America's Bicentennial celebration.

**Series:** News Clippings

**Dates:** 1955-1976

**Extent:** 7 box(es)

**Material types:**

**Scope and Content Note**

This series contains clippings from newspapers and magazines that pertain to Pastore from about 1955-1976, during his time as a U.S. Senator. These clippings include segments from speeches that he gave, articles about legislation he worked on, campaign advertisements, and political cartoons. Some of the most popular subjects are Atomic Energy, Communications, Foreign Relations, the Navy, Rhode Island, and Vietnam.

**Arrangement**

This series is arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box 1	Folder	Aged-Miscellaneous - Communications	1959-1976
Box 2	Folder	Communications - Imports/Exports	1960-1976
Box 3	Folder	Imports/Exports - Miscellaneous	1960-1976
Box 4	Folder	Miscellaneous - Pell, Claiborne	1959-1976
Box 5	Folder	Pettine, Raymond J. - State of Rhode Island	1956-1976
Box 6	Folder	State of Rhode Island - Textiles	1960-1976
Box 7	Folder	Textiles - Washington March	1961-1976

**Series:** Photographs

**Dates:** various dates

**Extent:** 4 box(es)

**Material types:**

**Scope and Content Note**

This series contains photographs of fellow government officials, publicity photographs from events Pastore attended or places he visited, and personal photographs of himself and his family. Some of the more notable photographs are from his interactions with Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, photographs from America's Bicentennial, his visits to armed forces camps, and his many visits to nuclear energy facilities.

**Series:** Roll Call Votes

**Dates:** 1950-1976

**Extent:** 5 box(es)

**Material types:**

**Scope and Content Note**

This series contains the full voting records of Congress from the 82nd Congress 1st Session to the 94th Congress 2nd Session. Also included are indexes to roll call numbers and an oversized box containing compiled voting histories.

**Arrangement**

The Roll Call Votes are arranged chronologically.

**Series:** Significant Correspondence

**Dates:** 1954-1976

**Extent:** 2 box(es)

**Material types:**

**Scope and Content Note**

This series contains correspondence from prominent figures that Pastore was in contact with during his years in office. Some of the more notable figures include Presidents Truman, Kennedy (and family), Johnson, Nixon, Vice President Hubert Humphrey, Senators T.F. Green, Claiborne Pell, Giovanni Leone, the President of Italy, along with many others.

The series consists of office memorandums and correspondence, thank you letters, notes of congratulation and requests for Pastore's support on legislation or actions. This correspondence is primarily political in nature. Additional correspondence can be found in the Biographical Information series and the Subject Files series.

**Arrangement**

This series is arranged chronologically.

**Series:** Speeches

**Dates:** 1937-1976

**Extent:** 44 box(es)

**Material types:**

**Scope and Content Note**

This series contains speeches and remarks made by Pastore throughout his long career. This is the largest series in the collection. These speeches cover a wide variety of topics, but mainly consist of his speeches given at public and private events, award or anniversary ceremonies, and remarks for radio or television stations. Folders include speeches, drafts and some awards, along with photographs that were generated by these events. In addition, many of these folders also include audio tapes or films of the speeches.

Boxes 18 through 22 contain extensive material on Pastore's Democratic National Convention speech given in 1964, along with extensive correspondence regarding his speech - mainly congratulatory notes and requests for copies. Some of the awards and photographs accompanying these speeches are in the oversized section of the collection.

**Arrangement**

The speeches are arranged chronologically.

Box 1	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1937-Dec 1947
Box 2	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1948-Dec 1949
Box 3	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1950-Dec 1951
Box 4	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1952-Dec 1954
Box 5	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1955-Dec 1956
Box 6	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1957-Dec 1957
Box 7	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1958-Sep 1958
Box 8	Folder	Speeches	Oct 1958-Dec 1958
Box 9	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1959-Jun 1959
Box 10	Folder	Speeches	Jul 1959-Dec 1959
Box 11	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1960-Dec 1960
Box 12	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1961-Dec 1961
Box 13	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1962-Dec 1962
Box 14	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1963-Oct 1963
Box 15	Folder	Speeches	Nov 1963-Dec 1963
Box 16	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1964-Mar 1964
Box 17	Folder	Speeches	Apr 1964-Aug 23, 1964
Box 18	Folder	Speeches - Democratic National Convention	Aug 24, 1964-Aug 27, 1964
Box 19	Folder	Speeches - Democratic National Convention	Aug 24, 1964-Aug 27, 1964
Box 20	Folder	Speeches - Democratic National Convention	Sep 1, 1964-Sep 3, 1964
Box 21	Folder	Speeches - Democratic National Convention	Oct 1964-Dec 1975 (and undated)
Box 22	Folder	Speeches - Democratic National Convention	Aug 24, 1964-Aug 27-1964
Box 23	Folder	Speeches	Aug 28, 1964-Dec 1964
Box 24	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1965-Jun 1965
Box 25	Folder	Speeches	Jul 1965-Dec 1965
Box 26	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1967-Sep 20, 1967
Box 27	Folder	Speeches	Sep 20, 1967-Dec 15, 1967 (and undated)
Box 28	Folder	Speeches	Jan 2, 1968-Oct 11, 1968
Box 29	Folder	Speeches	Oct 11, 1968-Dec 1968

Box 30	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1969-Mar 24, 1969
Box 31	Folder	Speeches	Mar 24, 1969-Dec 1969
Box 32	Folder	Speeches	Jan 1970-Sep 1970
Box 33	Folder	Speeches	Oct 2, 1970-Dec 30 1970
Box 34	Folder	Speeches	1970 (and undated)
Box 35	Folder	Speeches	Jan 4, 1971-Dec 1971
Box 36	Folder	Speeches	Jan 23, 1972-Dec 1972
Box 37	Folder	Speeches	Jan 26 1973-Sep 10, 1973
Box 38	Folder	Speeches	Jan 25, 1973-Dec 13 1973 (and undated)
Box 39	Folder	Speeches	Jan 14, 1974-June 25, 1974
Box 40	Folder	Speeches	Jul 11 1974-Nov 14, 1974
Box 41	Folder	Speeches	Nov 1974-Undated/ Miscellaneous
Box 42	Folder	Speeches	Miscellaneous
Box 43	Folder	Speeches	Miscellaneous
Box 44	Folder	Speeches	Miscellaneous

**Series:** Subject Files

**Dates:**

**Extent:** 33 box(es)

**Material types:**

**Scope and Content Note**

This series contains material that Pastore worked on or was involved with throughout his career in public service. Most significant are the materials pertaining to the Atomic Energy Commission, the Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Communications, the textile industry, along with materials relating to the State of Rhode Island.

Additional topics included in this series pertain to the Banking Committee, the Commerce Department, the Department of the Navy, legislative affairs, revenue sharing, and voting rights.

**Arrangement**

This series is arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box 1	Folder	Army -- Armed Services Committee	Various
Box 2	Folder	Aging -- Atomic Energy	Various
Box 3	Folder	Atomic Energy (Correspondence)	Various
Box 4	Folder	Atomic Energy -- Automobile	Various
Box 5	Folder	Banking Committee -- Commerce Department	Various
Box 6	Folder	Commerce Department -- Communication	Various
Box 7	Folder	Commerce Committee 1955-1974	Various
Box 8	Folder	Commerce Committee 1955-1974	Various
Box 9	Folder	Congressional -- EURATOM	Various
Box 10	Folder	Fair Trade -- Lagueux	Various
Box 11	Folder	Legislation	1956-1974
Box 12	Folder	Legislation	1960-1969
Box 13	Folder	Legislation	1969-1972
Box 14	Folder	Legislation	1973
Box 15	Folder	Legislation	1973
Box 16	Folder	Legislation	1973
Box 17	Folder	Legislation	1974
Box 18	Folder	Legislation	1972-1974
Box 19	Folder	Legislation	1974-1976
Box 20	Folder	Legislation Miscellaneous	Various
Box 21	Folder	Legislation Bound Reports	Various
Box 22	Folder	Legislation Bound Reports	Various
Box 23	Folder	Letters -- Navy General	Various
Box 24	Folder	Navy General -- OEO	Various
Box 25	Folder	OEO -- Revenue Sharing	Various
Box 26	Folder	RI (Miscellaneous) -- RI Cities and Towns:Cranston	Various
Box 27	Folder	RI Cities and Towns:Cranston-Woonsocket	Various
Box 28	Folder	RI Colleges and Universities -- State of the Union	Various
Box 29	Folder	Statistics -- Textiles	Various
Box 30	Folder	Textiles	Various
Box 31	Folder	Textiles -- United Nations	Various
Box 32	Folder	United Nations -- Vetos	Various



Box 33	Folder	Voting -- Womens Relief	Various
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