



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Minnesota State Archives

## LEGISLATURE

### SENATE

# An Inventory of the Lessard (Senator Bob) Subject Files

#### OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Agency:** Minnesota. Legislature. Senate.  
**Series Title:** Lessard (Senator Bob) subject files.  
**Dates:** [1970s] - 2002.  
**Quantity:** 3.5 cu. ft. (5 boxes).  
**Location:** See Detailed Description section for box locations.

#### SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

Subject files of Bob Lessard, who served as State Senator for Minnesota's 3<sup>rd</sup> District (Koochiching County) from 1976 through 2002. An Independent from International Falls, Lessard caucused with the Democratic-Farmer-Laborites in the Senate. The files include correspondence, clippings, notes, legislative bills, pamphlets, reports, press releases, photographs, speeches, and related materials documenting his service, particularly his authorship of the Senate bill establishing an official state photograph, his role in passing a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to hunt and fish, and his interest in the environment and natural resources, including all aspects of hunting, fishing, and wetlands and wilderness preservation. There are also files documenting such related topics as Indian treaties, packaging and the environment, Voyageurs National Park, waste management, and timber wolves.

#### INDEX TERMS

*This collection is indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.*

#### Topics:

- Emblems, State—Minnesota.
- Game laws—Minnesota.
- Indians of North America—Minnesota—Politics and government—1981- .

Packaging—Minnesota—Environmental aspects.  
Refuse and refuse disposal—Minnesota.  
Wetlands—Law and legislation—Minnesota.  
Wilderness areas—Law and legislation—Minnesota.  
Wolves—Minnesota.

**Places:**

Koochiching County (Minn.).  
Minnesota—Constitutional law—Amendments.  
Minnesota—Politics and government—1945-1980.  
Minnesota—Politics and government—1981- .  
Voyageurs National Park (Minn.).

**Persons:**

Lessard, Bob.

**Organizations:**

Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party.  
Minnesota. Legislature—Officials and employees.

**Types of documents:**

Bills (legislative records)—Minnesota.  
Clippings.  
Photographs—Minnesota.  
Press releases.  
Speeches.

**Occupations:**

Legislators—Minnesota.

**ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Preferred Citation:**

*[Indicate the cited item and folder title here].* Minnesota. Legislature. Senate. Lessard (Senator Bob) Subject Files. Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.  
*See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.*

**Accession Information:**

Accession number(s): 2007-2

**Processing Information:**

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Catalog ID No.: 6498580

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

*Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note the location shown below. Each file consists of one folder unless specified otherwise.*

### Location

- 118.H.18.7B                      Anderson, Senator Irv, 1979-1983.  
                                            Senator Anderson was also from International Falls, representing District 3A.
- Anti-hunting, fight against, 1990-1993.  
Aquaculture, 1992-1997.  
Bait ban, [ca. 1995].  
Bio-diesel, 2002.  
Boise Cascade Corporation, 1989-1992.  
Boundary Waters Canoe Area, [1970s] – [1990s].  
Canadian border, [1990s].  
Cats, Senate File [SF] 197, 2001.  
Certificates, 1980-1996.  
Clippings, 1978-1989.  
                                            Includes newspaper articles and a caricature.
- Commercial fishing, 1980-1983.  
Congressional Medal, November 2001.  
                                            Photographs.
- Constitutional amendments:  
                                            Lessard was chief author of a bill to create a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to hunt and fish. His first attempt, SF 1111, did not pass; his second, SF 41, passed in 1998. He also authored a constitutional amendment, SF 3173, that would have dedicated 3/16 of 1% of the state general sales tax for game and fish resource improvements, state parks and trails, metropolitan parks and trails, state zoo and local trail grants. That amendment did not pass.
- SF 1111, 1995-1998.  
                                            SF 41, 1996-1998.  
                                            SF 3173, 1998-2000.  
                                            SF 3173: Newspaper clippings, 1998-2000.
- Deer baiting, 1993-1995.  
Deer feeding, 1980-1995.  
Exotic species, 1992.  
Fish propagation, 1984-1987.  
Fish stocking, 1998-2000.

**Location**

- 118.H.18.7B                    Fishing legislation, 1983-1992.  
Fishing license fee increase, 1997.  
Fletcher challenge, 1987.  
Forestry, 1979-1993.  
*Grace*, 2002.  
    State photograph.
- Gun control and outdoor activities, 1977-1997.  
Hunting/fishing rights, 2001.  
Indian treaties, 1991-1993. 2 folders.
- 118.H.18.8F                    International Falls, 1989-2002.  
Lakeshore leases, 1984-1988.  
Marvin Windows, 1991-1997.  
National Rifle Association, 1986-1991.  
Natural Resources, Department of [DNR], 1989-2002. 2 folders.  
DNR, SF 3173, 2000.  
Northern Resources Alliance, 1987-1991.  
Oberstar, Congressman James, 1977-1991.  
    Oberstar represents the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, which includes  
    Koochiching County.
- Ontario-Minnesota border controversy, 1984-1985.  
Paternity, 1995-1997.  
Peat, 1977-1987.  
Pollution Control Agency, 1978-1993.  
Press releases, 1985-1999. 2 folders.  
Rainy Lake Sportsfishing Club, 1994-1995.  
Raptor research, 1983-1987.  
Reinvest in Minnesota [RIM], 1987-1990.  
Remote area border crossing permits, 1992-1993.  
Richardson, Senator Bill, 1981-1985.  
    California senator who consulted with Lessard on issues relevant  
    to both states.
- Right to bear arms legislation, 1989-1995.  
Sando, Rod, 1979-1995.  
    Documents the professional relationship between Lessard and  
    Sando, DNR Commissioner.
- 106.D.20.5B-1                Scrapbook, 1978-1980. 1 oversize volume.  
    Contains newspaper clippings, photographs, political cartoons,  
    notes, and correspondence that outline Lessard's early career as a  
    senator.

**Location**

- 118.H.18.8F                   Select Committee on Packaging and the Environment [SCOPE], 1990-1993. 3 folders.
- 118.H.18.9B                   Sierra Club, 1987-1999.  
Snowmobiles: Right-of-way problem, 1986-2001.  
Spearing controversy, 1984-1988.  
Speeches, [1980s].  
Sportsmen/women caucus, 1992-1993.  
Superfund alternative funding, 1992-1993.  
Superfund legislation, 1983-1985.  
Transportation, Department of, 1983-2002.  
Trappers/trapping, 1979-1985.  
U. S.–Canada fishing regulations, 1982-1993.  
Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission, 1978-1979.  
Voyageurs National Park:  
    General, 1976-1993, 2001. 2 folders.  
    Voyageurs National Park Citizens Council, 1985-1995.  
    Reclassification, [1990s]. 4 folders.  
Waste management amendments, [1990s]. 2 folders.  
Wellspring, 1983-1984.  
Wetlands: No net loss, 1994-1996. 2 folders.
- 118.H.18.10F                 White pine bill, 1995-1996.  
White bear: Halo, 1995-1998.  
Wilderness designation areas, 1976-1985. 2 folders.  
    Includes photographs.  
Wolf plan: Timber wolf, 1979-2000. 2 folders.  
Youth hunting, 1993.