

## Jeffrey Oshins

### Memorable Page Moments

Jeffrey Oshins recalls putting a bill in the hopper and meeting Representative Hale Boggs of Louisiana.  
*Interview recorded September 10, 2013*

As you know, I, I ended up going to work there as a, eventually as a professional staff member of the Congress. But one of the things that I remember was putting a bill in the hopper. And it was a bill to convert the United States to the metric system, which of course never happened. But, but then all the time that I was a professional staff member up there and, and working on legislation, I don't ever recall, ever again, putting a bill in the hopper. There was, there was physically a, a box near the dais that you set the, the bill that you wanted to file in, and it was picked up. I'm, I'm not even sure that they did that anymore by the time I got to work there for real in the mid-'70s. But that was, that was a very—that was exciting. And then you know, you would go and get Members, in the cloakroom and get them a candy bar, or whatever. You know, they'd send you on little errands and things. But mostly it was just sitting around the floor of the House of Representatives, which was pretty awe-inspiring too, because it was just such a beautiful, impressive place.

And one time I went into the cloakroom, and I kind of knew it was Hale Boggs that was standing there talking to the—there was this black man who sort of ran this little concession stand in there. And, and I was talking to him, and laughing, and going with him, "You know, I'm working for Hale Boggs but I haven't even met him." And the guy laughs and says, "Well, you're going to meet him now. Because here he is." {laughter} And so, that's how I met Hale Boggs, was in the, in the cloakroom off the floor of the House of Representatives.