

The Honorable Donna F. Edwards
U.S. Representative of Maryland (2008–2017)

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

Challenges

Representative Edwards talks about the financial challenges many women faced when running for Congress.

Interview recorded June 29, 2018

If you talk to many women Members in particular we don't come from the traditional sources that, you know, where there's money. Big law firms—you know, we're really mostly not partners and senior associates at, at huge law firms, which might be a source of, you know, sort of basic funding. We don't know people who have extraordinary amounts of money, the traditional sort of sources for money. And I think that that makes it really challenging to kind of get a foot in. And we're often not really part of the party apparatus that would enable us to raise money. And, you know, often coming from, from the outside as I did, I'd be foreclosed, and I was, to all of that Democratic Party money.