

Deborah D. Pryce
U.S. Representative of Ohio (1993–2009)

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

Women Working Together

Representative Pryce shares a story of how women Members worked together to accomplish their collective goals.

Interview recorded August 9, 2018

It was amazing how well the women worked together. Now, I tell a story, it's a little bit long, I'll try to abbreviate it, but I was the Republican class president. And so as a class, you know, we wanted to get together to take our thoughts, and, and not necessarily demands, but, you know, our ideas and what we would like to see accomplished to the leadership. So I remember, you know, chairing those meetings of our Republican newly-elected, you know, freshman class to come up with a list of what would be, you know, important to us. And, and we did this through orientation and when we first came as a class and we spent hours and days and just to finally, finally, you know, come up with a small list of things. But the women Members, both Republican and Democrat, met to sort of do the same thing. And the women Members met in, in the Speaker's Room at the time and I just remember being there for less than an hour and a half and doing the same task, boom, boom, boom, getting it down, getting it agreed to, sending it on to the Speaker's Office, and then we all went to, on to do other business. And what a different dynamic it was for the same task when everyone was, you know, a woman or there was a mix. So what that says I'm not sure or I'm not going to say, but take it as you would.