

The Honorable Patricia Saiki
U.S. Representative of Hawaii (1987–1991)

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

Long-Distance Travel as a Member of Congress

Representative Saiki explains her long-distance travel arrangements between Hawaii and Washington, DC.

Interview recorded September 20, 2018

My second home was in Chicago. I came home every three weeks. Every time there was a recess, a short break, I was on an airplane. Fortunately, my husband enjoyed flying, so he came with me, but we came back and forth. I had my home here in Hawaii. My parents moved out from Hilo to stay in my home and the kids were all grown up by this time. They were in college. And so every three weeks I would fly home. I had a local office which was manned by extremely loyal people who took my efforts in Hawaii and managed to give it the attention necessary. And so—but in those days we had to stop in Chicago, and then I would land in Washington, DC. So, like I said, Chicago seemed like my second home. Every three weeks for all those years. And it was worth it though because I'd come home, and I'd have meetings with people, and I'd assure them of what is going on, and bring them up to date with what is pending and so forth.