

Electronic Sources for Federal Legislative History Documents With Years/Congresses Available

By Richard J. McKinney, Assistant Law Librarian, Federal Reserve Board; last updated in June 2011 - LLSDC.org/Sourcebook/
(Note: In each listing group non-fee based sources precede those that are *fee based in italic*)

Legislative History Electronic Compilations (selected committee reports & other related documents)

- LLSDC.org - has links to leg. hist's on Internet, practitioner's guide to compiling, union list, others
- THOMAS - has bill histories (from 1973) w links to related bills (1989), repts (1995), CR p. (2001+)
- *Westlaw - has a linked leg. history Web site (<http://integrationsolutions.westlaw.com/gov/leghist/>)*
- *Westlaw - has some 21,000 digitized GAO leg. histories (FED-LH file - 1924-1994 - premium srvc)*
- *Westlaw - has linked leg. history docs to public law cites (PL 93-259, etc.) from 1974 to present*
- *Westlaw - has LH file (USCCAN cmte repts 1948+); TELECOM-LH & others searchable histories*
- *LexisNexis - has TAXLH (1954+), Appropriations (1992+), GLBLH (1999) & other leg. histories*
- *LexisNexis - has CIS leg. histories (CISLH -1970+ with links to abstracts of hearings/reports 84+, to C.R. pages 1985+, to bill texts 1989+, and to committee reports 1990+)*
- *Proquest - (<http://cisupa.proquest.com>) has CIS leg. hist's 1969+ and tons of digitized reports, hrngs, etc*
- *HeinOnline.org - has hundreds of leg. histories - see LLSDC's Commercial Leg. Hist's on Internet*

Popular Name or Public Law Number Index (to find the law/bill to research)

- LLSDC.org - has popular name & public law number lists/links of leg. histories on the Internet
- GPO FDsys - has name & PL # search capability by Congress from 1995 (104th Cong.)
- THOMAS - has public law number table from 1973 (93rd. Cong.) with links to bill history
- THOMAS - has word/phrase searching in its bill status/summary section by Congress from 1973
- Law Revision Counsel (<http://uscode.house.gov/>) - downloadable "Acts Cited by Popular Name"
- Cornell LII (<http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/topn/>) - has popular name index - links to USC)
- *Westlaw - has find US legislation by cite capability from 1973 & popular name index (USCA-POP)*
- *LexisNexis find law by cite 1789+ as in "79 pl 234" or "60 stat 327" & pop name index (USNAME)*
- *HeinOnline.org - Legislative Reference Checklist: Key to Leg. Histories from 1789-1903 (Bill #s)*
- *HeinOnline.org - Legis. History Library is accessible by popular name and public law number*

U.S. Code (has brief history of amdts after each section of the Code to discern which law to research)

- LLSDC.org/sourcebook/ - has USC & US Statutes history/explanations & links to USC sites/tables
- GPO FDsys - has USC from 1994 editions with annual cum. supplements (text, not PDF)
- Law Revision Counsel (<http://uscode.house.gov/>) - has downloadable chapters & cur. update tables
- Cornell's LII (<http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/>) - has USC with direct linking to sections
- Findlaw (<http://www.findlaw.com/casecode/uscodes/>) - has USC with direct linking to sections
- *Westlaw - updated USCA & back years from 1990 (USCA90, USCA02) & by date range 1996+*
- *LexisNexis - has updated USCS and back years from 1992 (US1992, US1994, US2002, etc.)*
- *LoisLaw.com, TheLaw.net, BloombergLaw.com, & VersusLaw.com have current USC*

Bill/Public Law Chronologies & Brief Summaries

- GPO FDsys - has history of bills & resolutions from 1983 with dates to page numbers from 1993
- THOMAS - has bill status & summaries from 1973 with links to bill text from 1989 (101st Cong.)
- GovTrack.us - tracks bills (1993-present), has related hearing info, similar titled bills, etc.
- LLSDC.org/sourcebook/ - has status table on selected legis. topics from 1985-2007 (99th-110th Cng)
- *Westlaw - has US-BILLTRK and BILLTRK-OLD (1991+) no links or C.R. page #s - via StateNet*
- *LexisNexis - has BLTRCK, BLT105, etc. (1989+) w links to CR 1991+, reports 1995+; summaries*
- *CQ Roll Call - has Bill Track with links to C.R. pages & reports from 1995; CQ Archives from 1985*

- *StateNet.com* - has U.S. bill chronologies from 1991 (102nd Cong.; no CR pages, no links)
- *LLMC.com* - Digest of Public General Bills by CRS, 1936-1990, precedes THOMAS database

Bill/Public Law Texts

- GPO FDsys - has full text of bills in all versions from 1993 (103rd Cong.; text & PDF)
- GPO FDsys - has full text of all public laws from 1995 in PDF & U.S. Statutes at Large 1951-2002
- THOMAS - has full text of bills in all versions, including enrolled versions, from 1989 (101st Cong.)
- Library of Congress (<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/>) - bills & statutes 1789-1873
- Govtrack.us - text of all bills from 1995; highlights changes in recent bill versions
- Westlaw - text of laws from 1973 (93rd Cong. USCCAN-PL) & US Statutes 1789-1972 (PDF-prem)
- Westlaw - has full text of bills in all versions from 1995 (104th Cong. - CONG-BILLTXT104, etc.)
- LexisNexis - text of laws from 1988 (100th Cong. - PUBLAW) & US Statutes 1789-present (PDF)
- LexisNexis - has full text of all bill versions from 1989 (101st Cong. - BLTEXT, BLT101, BLT107..)
- HeinOnline.org - has searchable Statutes at Large in PDF from 1789 to near present
- LLMC.com - has digital U.S. Statutes At Large by vol. number (1-115; 1789-2001)
- CQ Roll Call - has bill texts of all versions from 1995 (104th Cong.) & archives from 1987-1994)
- BloombergLaw.com - has bill texts from 1995; Statutes At Large 1789-Present; Acts as amended

Congressional Committee Reports (conference and standing committees)

- GPO FDys - has all cong. committee reports from 1995 (104th Cong.; in text & PDF)
- GPO Fdsys - has list of docs & repts found in U.S. Serial Set vols. 1957 to near current year
- THOMAS - has all congressional committee reports from 1995 (104th Cong. - in html)
- Lib.of Cong. (<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lwss.html>) - selectd Serial Set repts 1817-1917
- Westlaw - has all committee reports from 1990 (LH); selected ones related to public laws from 1948
- LexisNexis - has all committee reports from 1990 (CMTRPT)
- LexisNexis - has CIS abstracts of all reports (CISINX 1970+) & also those before 1974 (CISHST)
- Proquest - has digitized U.S. Serial Set (1789-1969) which includes cmte reports
- Readex.com - has digitized U.S. Serial Set (1789-1980) which includes cmte reports
- CQ Roll Call - has committee reports from 1995 and in CQ Archives from 1989-1994
- BloombergLaw - has committee reports from 1995 (104th Congress)

Congressional Record (bill actions, votes, floor debate, remarks, daily digest of floor & cmte actions)

- GPO FDsys - has full text from 1994; in PDF from 1995 (104th Cong. forward, daily edition)
- GPO FDsys - has bound Cong. Record from 1999 (other bound CR page cites must research)
- GPO FDsys - has Congressional Record Index from 1983 (98th Cong.) with dates from 1993
- THOMAS - has full text from 1989 in html (101st Cong. forward; daily edition only)
- Library of Cong. (<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html>) - has pre CR (1789-1874)
- LLSDC.org/sourcebook/ - has an overview & session table with dates, Record vol. #s & notations
- Westlaw - has full text of daily edition from 1985 (CR - 99th Cong. forward)
- LexisNexis - has full text of daily ed. 1985+ (RECORD, DIGEST, SENATE, 99TH, 106TH, etc.)
- Proquest - has digitized collection of all bound Cong. Record vols. & predecessor publications
- CQ Roll Call - has full text of daily ed. from 1995; CQ Archives from 1987 (100th Cong. forward)
- HeinOnline.org - has digitized all Cong. Rec. & predeces. vols.; CR Daily 1994-present; page match
- LLMC.com - bound Cong. Record by vol. # (136-147; 1990-2001) - plans to digitize more
- BloombergLaw.com - Cong. Record daily ed. 1989 to present; bound Record 1933-1988

Congressional Committee Hearings (from House and Senate standing committees)

- GPO FDsys - has published hearings in PDF from most committees, some as early as 1997 (105th)
- House.gov - Committee pages have most all prepared testimony in recent years, some arch. webcast

- Senate.gov - Committee pages have most all prepared testimony in recent years, some arch. webcast
- CapitolHearings.org - live audio feed of current Senate hearings (free)
- Rutgers Cong. Docs (<http://lawlibrary.rutgers.edu/gdoc/search.shtml>) thousands of hearings/prints 1970-98
- Hathi Trust Digital Library (<http://www.hathitrust.org/>) thousands of digitized hrgs/docs 1800s to recent
- Google Books (<http://books.google.com/>) thousands of digitized hearings and other books
- *FNSg.com* - has most all prepared statements and selected transcripts of testimony from 1993
- *CQ.com* (formerly *FDCH.com*) - has most all prepared statements and selected trans. from 1995
- *Westlaw* - has most prepared statements from 1996 & selected transcripts from 1994 (via *CQ Trans*)
- *LexisNexis* - most prepared statements from 1993 & selected transcripts from 1988 (*FNS* & *CQ*)
- *LexisNexis* - has *CIS* abstracts of all hearings (*CISINX* 1970+) & also those before 1970 (*CISHST*)
- *Factiva* - has most all prepared statements and selected transcripts from 1995 (via *CQ Transcripts*)
- *Proquest* - has digitized hearings in PDF of most published & unpublished hearings 1823 to current
- *C-SpanArchives.org* - has audio & video coverage of most congressional hearings from 1987

Presidential Signing Statements (from Daily/Weekly Compil. of Pres. Docs & Public Papers of Pres.)

- GPO FDsys – Daily/Weekly Compil. from 1993 & Public Papers of Pres from 1992 (text, PDF)
- American Presidency Project (<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/signingstatements.php#axzz1Hdh0TPF4>) 1929-
- *Westlaw* has *WCPD* from 1995-2008, *PRES-DAILY* from 1993, and *USCCAN-MSG* from 1986
- *LexisNexis* has *Public Papers of the President (PRESDC)* from March 1979
- *HeinOnline.org* - has *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Docs in PDF (1965-2008)*

Congressional Committee Markup Summaries and Amendments (amendment votes in committee)

- House & Senate Committee Reports - sometimes inserted into text of reports; see above sources
- House.gov & Senate.gov Committee Web Pages - sometimes placed on committee Web sites
- *CQ Roll Call* - has most all cmtte markup summaries from 1989; text of cmtte amdts from 2005
- *NationalJournal.com* - has most all committee markups summaries from September 1999
- *BNA.com* - has articles on committee markups in various newsletters (also on *Lexis* & *Westlaw*)

Congressional Committee Prints (studies/compilations; also the name for bill drafts before markup)

- GPO FDsys - has prints of most committees from 1997 (105th Cong.)
- House.gov & Senate.gov Committee Web pages - have selected cmtte prints from 1997 (105th Cng)
- *LexisNexis* - has many committee prints from 1995 (104th Cong.)
- *Proquest* – has digital/searchable PDF copies of prints & misc. docs from the 1800's

Congressional Documents (generally communications from the President - treaties, vetoes, etc.)

- GPO FDsys - has the numbered document series from 1995 (104th Cong.) for most docs
- *LexisNexis* - numbered document series (*HSDOCS*) from 1995 & *US Serial Set docs (1789-1969)*
- *Readex.com* - has digitized U.S. Serial Set (1789-1980) which includes Hse & Sen docs

Related Studies, Reports, Articles (from GAO, CBO, OMB, CRS, White Hse, agencies, news, etc.)

- GPO FDsys - has GAO reports from 1995 (in text and PDF) & U.S. Budget from 1997
- GAO.gov - has Government Accountability Office reports from 1920s (in PDF with html abstract)
- CBO.gov - has Congressional Budget Office leg. cost estimates & other studies/reports from 1981
- OMB.gov - has recent statements of admin. policy, US Budget material, circulars, etc.
- *LLSDC.org/sourcebook/* - has links to all major Cong. Research Service report sites on the Internet
- *PennyHill.com* - has abstracts of all CRS reports from 1995 (*fee if requesting document*)
- Various agency & commission Web sites, law firm analyses (use search engines)
- *Westlaw* & *Lexis/Nexis* - have *GAO reports from 1994; also have news searches*
- *CQ*, *BNA.com*, *others* - usually have related articles in *Weekly Report* and newsletters