Introduction to

UNITED STATES

Legislative Materials And Legislative Histories

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INTRODUCTION TO UNITED STATES

LEGISLATIVE MATERIALS AND LEGISLATIVE HISTORIES

INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THIS GUIDE

A legislative history provides the researcher with the status (i.e., the progress through Congress) of a bill at any given time. It also identifies and, in some cases, compiles the texts of documents that are the result of action taken as a bill goes through each stage of the legislative process. Legislative history material may be useful for researchers trying to determine the legislative intent behind a law.

Legislative history documents usually consist of the following items:

1. bills
2. committee hearings
3. committee reports
4. debates
5. committee prints
6. Presidential messages

This guide is designed to help you find federal legislative documents in the Law Library, in the Graduate Library, and through on-line resources. Major sources are briefly described and their locations on campus are provided. Where no indication of the library is given, the call number provided is for the Law Library. More detailed explanations of legislative history research are available in the sources listed in Section B below.

Because most researchers are interested in statutes, this guide focuses on enacted statutes rather than on bills that failed to become law or bills currently being considered in Congress. Much of the discussion will also apply to the latter two situations, however.

B. OTHER REFERENCE SOURCES ON LEGISLATIVE HISTORIES

The following sources contain more detailed discussions on legislative histories:


FOR HELP, ASK A REFERENCE LIBRARIAN AT THE REFERENCE DESK ON LEVEL S-1.
PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATIONS

A. TWO WAYS TO OBTAIN LEGISLATIVE HISTORIES

There are two ways to obtain a legislative history:

1. Locate a previously compiled legislative history

Compiled legislative histories are generally only available for statutes (bills that have been passed into law) -- not for failed bills or bills still under consideration by Congress. To locate a compiled legislative history using the sources described on page 6, you will need the following information:

   1. the **name of the act**, and
   2. the **Public Law (P.L.) number**.

If you do not have this information yet, please go to section C of this handout.

2. Compile your own legislative history

You will have to compile your own legislative history if you cannot locate a compiled legislative history for a statute, or if you are tracing the history of a failed or current bill, or if your assignment requires you to do all of the research yourself. To compile a legislative history you will need the following information:

   1. The **Public Law (P.L.) number** (for statutes); and
   2. the **bill number**; and
   3. the **topic or subject** of the statute or bill; and
   4. the approximate **date** of introduction or passage of the statute or bill.

If you do not have this information yet, please go to section C of this handout.

B. GETTING STARTED

Begin by identifying what you already know about your statute or bill. The information with which you start will affect your approach to the research. Listed below are factors to assess and consider before you get started:

1. Statute or bill

Determine whether you want the history of

   1. An enacted statute; or
   2. A bill that failed to become law; or
   3. A bill that is currently under consideration by Congress.

Remember that compiled legislative histories are available for many, but not all, statutes, and are not generally available for failed bills or bills currently under consideration.
2. Dates

Identify the approximate date when the statute was passed or the bill was considered; this will help you identify which sources to consult.

C. PRELIMINARY CITATIONS AND TOPICAL INFORMATION

Note all of the citation and subject information you have for the statute or bill you are researching.

If you lack any of the citations necessary to locate a compiled legislative history or to compile your own, consult the following section, which will enable you to use what you already know about the statute or bill to fill in the missing information. Find the heading that applies to your situation; there you will find a list of sources to consult to locate the other citations.

1. Finding the Public Law (P.L.) number and Statutes at Large citation:

   a. **When only the subject of the act is known:**

      1. Generally

         Use the subject index volumes to the United States Code (U.S.C.), United States Code Annotated (U.S.C.A.), or United States Code Service (U.S.C.S.) to find the citation. All three sets are located in FED COLL: Statutes, S-2W. U.S.C.A. is also located in REF COLL: U.S., S-1C. The subject index to any of these sets (located near the end of the set) will refer you to the code citation. Look up the code citation. The Public Law (P.L.) number (e.g., P.L. 101-368) and the Statutes at Large citation (e.g., 92 Stat. 1074) appear at the end of the text of the statute in U.S.C., U.S.C.A., and U.S.C.S.

      2. When the law has been enacted very recently

         New statutes appear first in one of four publications. The currency of the publications described below varies. If one source lacks a recent enactment, try the others. Statutes usually appear in one or more of these sources between one and two months after passage.

         a. **Official slip laws** (shelved after Statutes at Large) (FED COLL Statutes, S-2W)

            Each Public Law is published in an individual pamphlet. These are placed in notebooks in loose-leaf format. There is no index, but the Public Law (P.L.) number and the title of the law are printed at the top of the first page of each pamphlet. Therefore, it is easy to find the law you are looking for if you know the approximate date the law was passed and the subject of the law.

         b. **United States Code Congressional and Administrative News (USCCAN) advance sheets** (FED COLL Statutes, S-2W)

            These pamphlets are organized by Public Law (P.L.) number, and there is a subject index in the back of each pamphlet. The subject index is cumulative for each session of Congress, so you need only consult the index in the latest pamphlet to locate Public Law (P.L.) numbers for the session covered.
c. **U.S.C.S. advance pamphlets** (FED COLL: STAT, S-2W)
   These pamphlets are also organized by public law (P.L.) number. There is a cumulative subject index and a popular name table in the back of each pamphlet.

   Arranged in *U.S.C.A.* classification order, there is a noncumulative subject index in the back of each pamphlet, as well as a popular name table.

3. **For early federal statutes**

   There are two subject indexes to early federal statutes: Beaman & McNamara's *Index Analysis of the Federal Statutes 1789-1873* and McClenon & Gilbert's *Index to the Federal Statutes 1874-1931*, both located in FED COLL: Statutes, S-2W. These are shelved immediately before the *Statutes at Large* set. Also, each volume of *Statutes at Large* (FED COLL: Statutes, S-2W) has its own index, which is helpful if you know the approximate date that the law was passed.

b. **When only the short or popular name of the act is known:**

   1. *Shepard's Acts and Cases by Popular Name* (REF COLL: CITATORS, S-1C) covers all U.S. jurisdictions, state and federal, but only includes references to selected statutes. This source lists popular names of well-known statutes in alphabetical order and provides citations to the *U.S.C.* and *Statutes at Large*; Public Law (P.L.) numbers are provided when available. The source is kept current by annual cumulative supplements.

   2. The *U.S.C., U.S.C.A., and U.S.C.S.*, (FED COLL: Statutes, S-2W; for *U.S.C.A.*, also REF COLL: U.S., S-1C) have tables which alphabetically list popular names of acts and provide complete citations, including Public Law (P.L.) numbers and *Statutes at Large* references. Popular name tables are located near the end of each set, after the general index.

c. **When only the United States Code (U.S.C.) citation is known:**


2. **Finding Bill Numbers**

   a. **For statutes**

      1. For the first through the 57th Congresses (1789-March 3, 1903), bill numbers for enacted federal statutes can be found in Eugene Nabors’ *Legislative Reference Checklist* (REF COLL Docs Nabors, S-1C), by looking under the Public Law (P.L.) number.
2. Beginning with the 58th Congress (March 4, 1903-present), bill numbers for enacted statutes can be obtained by consulting the applicable *Statutes at Large* (Fed Coll: Statutes, S-2W) volume where the text of the statute appears; the bill number is found in the margin at the beginning of the statute. Note that very long (oversized) statutes may be bound separately in pamphlet form. They are located in boxes to the right of the binders holding recent slip laws.


b. **For bills that were never enacted or are currently in Congress**

1. The CCH *Congressional Index* (1939-present) (REF COLL Docs, S-1C). Subject indexes provide bill numbers.

2. Articles in *Congressional Quarterly Weekly Reports*, a current awareness source for information on congressional activities, often cite bill numbers (ENG PER C_Q_Week, S-3N). There is an index issued quarterly, which cumulates for the current year. This source is especially helpful for bills that are currently going through Congress.

3. The annual *Congressional Quarterly Almanac* (REF COLL Docs, S-1C and Eng Per, S-3N) contains articles about major legislation which appeared in *Congressional Quarterly Weekly Reports* during that year; this publication is divided into chapters by subject, and contains indexes for bill numbers as well as a general subject index.

**COMPILED LEGISLATIVE HISTORIES**

There are several places to check for compiled legislative histories once you have the necessary citation information:

A. **Bibliographies**


   Part II of this bibliography contains references to compiled legislative histories; it is arranged by Congress and by Public Law (P.L.) number within each Congress. There is also an alphabetical index arranged by the titles of the Public Laws. The formats of the listed legislative histories vary; they may be published as books, contained in journal articles, or parts of larger sets.

   If you locate a compiled legislative history for your statute in the bibliography, use the information provided in the entry to search Lexcalibur to determine whether the Law Library owns it. You may also check MIRLYN and Mentor to see if the item is owned elsewhere on campus.

This bibliography describes over 250 legislative histories compiled during the 37th Congress in 1862 through the 101st Congress, second session, in 1990. The public laws covered begin with the 4th Congress.

The indices provide access to the bibliographic records by author of the history, popular name of the public law, Congressional session law numbers before 1901, public law (P.L.) numbers after 1900, and bill number.

Once you locate a history, you can search in Lexcalibur, MIRLYN, and Mentor to see if it is available on campus.

B. Other Published Legislative Histories

1. Legislative histories for individual laws are frequently published as books. You can search for them in Lexcalibur by running a "Word" search using the title of the act.

2. You may also find references to journal articles containing legislative histories in Legaltrac, a periodical index, by running a subject search or by typing in the name of the statute you are researching. You can access Legaltrac online from the Library’s home page:  
<http://141.211.44.51/_LibraryResearchLinks/Resource.asp>

From University of Michigan computers, you may also use Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe to search the full text or title of journal articles for your statute. Academic Universe is available at <web.lexis-nexis.com/universe>. Click on “Legal Research,” then “Law Reviews,” then on the “more options” tab. Then search by “title” or “full text.”

3. Material may be found in MIRLYN, the Graduate Library's online catalog, by running a title search for "Legislative history" plus the name of the law (i.e., t=legislative history [name of law]), or by running a subject search using the search "s=Legislative histories--United States”.


These sets reprint the text of most, but not all, federal public laws. They also include selected committee reports. For this reason, *USCCAN* and *U.S. Congressional Service* are more useful for brief -- rather than comprehensive -- legislative history research.

The sets are arranged chronologically by Congress and by session. Within each session the texts of the Public Laws appear in numerical order (e.g., P.L. 102-1, P.L. 102-2). Selected legislative histories follow in numerical order by Public Law (P.L.) number. Although only selected reports are reprinted, references to other documents are given. In the last volume for each session there
are various tables and indexes -- for example, tables that list where a Public Law has been codified in the *United States Code*, and which laws have been amended or repealed.

**D. CIS Index to Publications of the United States Congress.** 1970- (CIS Index and Abstracts) (REF COLL, Docs, S-1C)

The *CIS Index* is mainly used for indexing and abstracting federal legislative documents (see pp. 13-14) but it also contains very comprehensive compiled legislative histories. There are two places to look for these compilations, depending on the year the legislation was passed.

Prior to 1984, the back of each annual *Abstracts* volume contains a section called "Legislative History Citations." This section includes citations to congressional documents numerically by Public Law (P.L.) number, for both the previous session and the current session. **Beginning in 1984**, there are separate annual volumes called *Legislative Histories* that contain the same information. Public Law (P.L.) numbers are indexed in the *Legislative Histories* volumes by subject, name, and bill number. There is also a conversion table to find the Public Law (P.L.) number if you know the bill number. **Because some legislative histories are updated in subsequent years, it is important to check later volumes of the CIS Index for complete information.**

You may obtain the full text of the identified documents on microfiche in the *CIS Microfiche Library* (MICRO-10 S516, S-2C) (excluding bills and the *Congressional Record*) by noting the "accession number" assigned by CIS (e.g., CIS 92:H643-67 where "92" is the year of the index and "H643-67" is the CIS fiche number) and by filling out a Microfiche Request Form at the Circulation Desk on S-2. See pp. 13-14 for details on how to request fiche.

You may also search the *CIS Index* using Congressional Universe, an Internet resource described on p. 16. Doing so allows you to search multiple index years at once (this is useful if you do not know when your document was indexed).

**E. Legislative Histories Index I** (82nd – 92nd Congress, 1951-1972) (MICROFORM ROOM BOOKS L514; S-2C)

This source indexes histories of important legislation. It is a selective collection compiled by various leading law firms.

The index is arranged by Congress, and may be accessed by Public Law (P.L.) number, *Statutes at Large* citation, bill number, and popular name.

Complete texts of documents comprising each history listed in the index are on microcard and may be requested at the Circulation Desk (MICRO-7 S2 [82nd – 87th Congress] and MICRO-10 S2 [88th – 92nd Congress]). To request the microcard, fill in the micro call number, the Congress, and the Public Law (P.L.) number on a Microfiche Request Form.

**F. Compiled Tax Legislative Histories**

1953-1972 (FED COLL, S-2W). The first set is indexed by *A Guide and Analytical Index to the Internal Revenue Acts, 1909-1950*, shelved with the sets in FED COLL, S-2W. An additional copy of the index is located in REF COLL Docs Reams, S-1C. Legislative history sets for the tax acts since 1972 are also shelved with these sets in Fed Coll, S-2W.

**COMPILING YOUR OWN LEGISLATIVE HISTORY**

The first step in compiling your own legislative history is to identify documents relating to your statute or bill. As noted above, these documents may include the text of bills, committee reports, hearings, debates, and other Congressional documents.

When using the indexes and other sources described below, check the years before and after the year that the law you are researching was passed or the bill introduced. Sometimes hearings are held and reports are written or published before or after the session in which the law was actually passed.

You will also need to check for other documents and bill numbers using a subject approach, since hearings and reports are not always linked to a specific law via bill number. This is because a committee may hold "overview" hearings and then draft the bill after the hearings are concluded. In other instances the bill or bills that were referred to the committee may be altered substantially in mark-up sessions. In this case, the bill is referred to as a "clean bill" and renumbered; you would then use the new bill number to find related material. Moreover, if a bill does not pass during one session, it may be reintroduced during the next session with a new bill number.

One final point to remember is that if you are looking for documents relating to a bill that was never passed, you can find the bill number and references to hearings, reports, etc. by using a subject approach in any of the general indexes. The number of a bill that was never enacted may be found in the sources described on pp. 5-6 above.

The first part of this section will describe the documents and list the tools that index them. The second part will describe the indexes in more detail.

**A. DOCUMENTS AND INDEXES**

1. **Bills**

   For a detailed discussion on how to find bill numbers, please see pages 5-6.

   a. **Indexed by:**


      2. *Congressional Index.* 1939-present (REF COLL Docs, S-1C) See page 14 for details on using this index.
b. **Obtaining Text:**

1. **Prior to 1936**

   The Law Library does not own bills prior to 1936. They may be at the Graduate Library or available through Interlibrary Loan. Please see the chart on pp. 18-20 for availability of bills.

2. **1936-1978**

   The Law Library has a nearly complete collection of Congressional Bills from 1936 to the present. Bills dating 1936-1978 are in bound volumes located in the Closed Stacks (Closed Stacks, Cong. Docs.) and arranged by number of the Congress, house of Congress, then bill number. To request a volume, fill out a “Request to page a book from a closed area” and submit it to the Circulation Desk.

3. **1979-2000**

   Beginning with the 96th Congress (1979/80-present) bills are on microfiche, under the title “Bills and Resolutions” (MICRO-10 S502); coverage is usually one to two sessions of Congress behind, so you will need to consult the GPO fiche (MICRO-10 S503) described below for bills from the two most recent sessions of Congress. You will need the Congress and bill number to request the Bills and Resolutions microfiche at the Circulation Desk. **Starting in 2001,** the Government Printing Office is no longer printing new bills, but is relying on its website at <www.access.gpo.gov/congress/cong009.html>. However, a new contractor has picked up the “GPO” fiche shipments to us, and the finding aid still seems to arrive as usual. These new materials are catalogued under the same call number as the GPO fiche (MICRO-10 S503).

4. **Current Congress**

   Bills for the current Congress and the Congress just past are on "GPO fiche," also under the title “Bills and Resolutions” (MICRO-10 S503). A GPO fiche number is needed to fill out the microfiche request form. This is obtained by using the GPO finding aid (Ref Desk, S-1C or the Microform Room Books S959 U84 33 on S-2C) to convert the Congress, Session, and bill number to the GPO fiche number. Please ask a library staff person at the Reference Desk or the Circulation Desk for assistance. **Starting in 2001,** the Government Printing Office is no longer printing new bills, but is relying on its website at <www.access.gpo.gov/congress/cong009.html>. However, a new contractor has picked up the “GPO” fiche shipments to us, and the finding aid still seems to arrive as usual. These new materials are catalogued under the same call number as the GPO fiche (MICRO-10 S503).
2. Hearings

a. Indexed by:

1. **CIS Index to Publications of the United States Congress.** 1970-present (REF COLL Docs CIS, S-1C) See pp. 13-14 for details on using this index.

2. **CIS U.S. Congressional Committee Hearings Index.** 1833-1969 (REF COLL Docs CIS, S-1C) See p. 15 for details on using this index.

3. **Congressional Index.** 1939-present (REF COLL Docs, S-1C) See p. 14 for details on using this index.

4. **CIS Index to Unpublished U.S. Senate Committee Hearings, 18th-92nd Congress, 1823-1976** (REF COLL Docs CIS, S-1C) See p. 15 for details on using this index.

5. **CIS Index to Unpublished U.S. House of Representatives Committee Hearings, 1833-1964** (REF COLL Docs CIS, S-1C) See p. 15 for details on using this index.

b. Obtaining Text:

Hearings from 1969 to the present are in the Law Library in the **CIS Microfiche Library** (MICRO-10 S516). See pp. 13-14 for details on how to request fiche.

Hearings from 1935 through 1968 are available in the Law Library in paper. This collection is in Cong. Docs. in the closed stacks. The House committee hearings are bound in tan cloth, and the Senate committee hearings are bound in green. They are arranged by Congress and session, alphabetically by the name of the committee (not subcommittee) and then alphabetically by the title of the hearing. Each bound volume contains a table of contents.

Selected pre-1935 hearings may be located in the Law Library by doing a title search in Lexcalibur or by consulting the Public Card Catalog for the specific call number. Check under the title heading "Legislative History." Alternately, do an author search under "United States. Congress. House." or "United States. Congress. Senate." followed by the name of the committee holding the hearing. If the Law Library does not have the hearing, ask a librarian in the Documents Center at the Grad Library for assistance in locating a specific hearing. The Documents Center at the Graduate Library has hearings on CIS fiche from 1833 to the present. Please see the chart on pp. 21-23 for details.

3. Reports

a. Indexed by:

1. **CIS Index to Publications of the United States Congress.** 1970-present (REF COLL Docs CIS, S-1C) See pp. 13-14 for details on using this index.

2. **Congressional Index.** 1939-present (REF COLL Docs, S-1C) See p. 14 for details on using this index.

b. **Obtaining Text:**

From 1970-present, the Law Library owns reports on microfiche in the **CIS Microfiche Library (MICRO-10 S516)**. See pp. 13-14 for details on how to obtain the fiche.

From 1936 through 1970, the Law Library has paper copies of reports (Cong. Docs., closed stacks). These are bound in a separate numerical sequence for House and Senate by report number within each Congress. These are bound in dark blue bindings.

Prior to 1936, the Law Library has only a few selected committee reports. Consult Lexcalibur or the Public Card Catalog to determine which are in the Law Library's collection. Search using "U.S. Congress. Senate." or "U.S. Congress. House." followed by the name of the committee issuing the report. If the Law Library lacks desired reports, the "Serial Set" in the Graduate Library and at Buhr storage facility is a reliable source (see the discussion on the "Serial Set" on pp. 14-15). Use the **CIS U.S. Serial Set Index** (REF COLL: DOCS, S-1C) to find the specific report that you wish to see, then ask a librarian in the Documents Center at the Grad Library for assistance in finding the report in the Serial Set.

4. **Debates**

Generally after a bill has been reported out of committee, members of Congress will consider the bill and any proposed amendments. These Congressional floor debates are contained in the **Congressional Record** and its predecessors. Supposedly a "verbatim" transcript, the remarks made are subject to revision before publication. The Law Library has a complete collection of these in paper and fiche.

a. **Annals of Congress** (1789-1824) (storage, CONST. CONV.)  
**Register of Debates** (1824-1837) [spine title: **Congressional Debates**] (storage, CONST. CONV.) and  
**Congressional Globe** (1833-1873) (FED COLL, S-2W)

**Annals of Congress** and **Register of Debates** are in storage (storage, CONST. CONV.); a storage pull may be requested at the Circulation Desk.

b. **Congressional Record** 1873 – present (FED COLL, S-2W and MICRO-10 S210)

The **Congressional Record** is published daily during sessions of Congress. An index is issued every ten days and cumulated annually. Access is by subject, names of legislators and titles of legislation. The index also contains a status table called "History of Bills and Resolutions" arranged by bill number.

The "Daily Digest," a summary of each day's proceedings, began publication in 1947. It is included in each daily issue of the **Congressional Record** and published as a separate volume at the end of the session.

The Daily **Congressional Records** are cumulated into annual bound volumes. These volumes are considered to be the authoritative versions of the **Congressional Record**, often containing additional material submitted after the day of debate, or excluding material printed in the daily version that congressional members have since withdrawn.
NOTE: The daily and permanent editions of the Congressional Record have different pagination systems, and there is no concordance available to translate a daily edition citation into a permanent edition citation. See the handout on the Congressional Record available at the reference desk for more information on how to get a permanent edition citation if you only have a daily edition citation.

5. Committee prints

Committee prints are documents prepared by individual committees or commissions; they encompass a wide range of materials, including background studies, reports, bibliographies, bill analyses, etc.

a. Indexed by:

1. **CIS Index to Publications of the United States Congress.** 1970-present (REF COLL Docs CIS, S-1C) See pp. 13-14 for details on using this index.


b. Obtaining Text:

From 1970– present, the Law Library owns committee prints on microfiche in the **CIS Microfiche Library** (MICRO-10 S516). See pp. 13-14 for details on obtaining the fiche.

The Graduate Library and Buhr are excellent sources for committee prints that the Law Library does not own; beginning with the 16th Congress, House and Senate Documents can be found in the "Serial Set" (see pp. 14-15). Use the **CIS U.S. Serial Set Index** (REF COLL Docs CIS, S-1C) to find the specific reference to the committee print that you wish to see, photocopy the information, and then ask a librarian in the Documents Center at the Grad Library for assistance in locating your committee print in the Serial Set.

Pre-1970 committee prints are acquired by the Law Library on a selective basis. You may find committee prints by checking Lexcalibur under "United States. Congress. House." or "United States. Congress. Senate." followed by the name of the committee.

6. Presidential Documents

The President may issue statements or messages when signing or vetoing a bill. These statements may be useful in interpreting legislative intent.

Indexed By and Obtaining Text:

a. **Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents** (FED COLL, S-2W) (shelved before the Congressional Globe)
Published since 1965, this set may include some documents relevant to legislative histories, such as announcements, transcripts of speeches, and press conferences. Each issue has an index for the current quarter, and there are annual cumulated indexes.

b. Other Sources

Presidential messages to Congress are printed as Congressional documents in the *Serial Set*, (see pp. 14-15 for a description of the *Serial Set*) as well as in the *Congressional Record* (FED COLL, S-2W). *United States Code Congressional and Administrative News* (FED COLL: Statutes, S-2W) reprints selected presidential messages and presidential statements made when signing legislation into law from 1986-present.

B. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY INDEXES

1. General Indexes

   a. *CIS Index to Publications of the United States Congress.* 1970-present (REF COLL: Docs CIS, S-1C)

This is the single most effective research tool for compiling post-1970 legislative histories. It indexes and abstracts congressional documents, including the following documents:

   1. hearings
   2. committee prints
   3. House and Senate reports
   4. executive reports
   5. treaty documents
   6. special congressional publications

Access is by subject, committee, title, bill number, and names of witnesses.

From 1984 to date, three separate volumes (performing separate functions) are published each year: *Abstracts, Index*, and *Legislative Histories*. Prior to 1984, only the *Index* and *Abstracts* volumes were published and the legislative histories were included in the back of the *Abstracts* volume. In addition, there are four- and five-year cumulative indexes, which are helpful if you are not sure of the precise dates involved.

We have the actual documents indexed in this set on microfiche in the *CIS Microfiche Library* (MICRO-10 S516, available from the Circulation Desk, S-2C with a completed microfiche request form). To find the documents you seek:

   1. Use the CIS index to identify the documents that interest you.

   2. Note the year of the index and the fiche number, a.k.a. "accession number" (for example, "H274-37") for each desired document. Each document is assigned an "accession number" that you will need for two reasons: first, to locate the abstract of the document in the *Abstracts* volume; second, to request the fiche at the Circulation Desk to see the full text of the document.
3. Check the abstract of the document (look up the abstract by the “accession number”) in the Abstracts volume matching the year of the index you consulted to make sure it is the document you need.

4. Fill out a Microfiche Request Form (available at the reference desk or the circulation desk). Check the “CIS-Index Yr” box. Write the year of the index volume or abstract volume in which you found your document, NOT the year that the document was originally created. (Documents might not become part of the fiche set for several years after they have been generated.) Write the accession number on the form where it says “fiche #.” If you only need specific pages of a document that is on multiple sheets of fiche, please indicate this on the request form. In the “citation” box, write the title of the document as given in the Abstracts volume. Also check the “Micro 10S” box, and write “516” on the line next to that box.

b. Congressional Index 1939-present (REF COLL Docs, S-1C).

The main function of the CCH Congressional Index is to trace the progress of a bill through the legislative process. This index can be used retrospectively back to 1939, but it is especially valuable for following current legislation, since it is in loose-leaf format and is updated on a weekly basis.

Using the bill number (found in the subject index), you can consult the Status Table, which allows you to follow the progress of a specific bill or bills chronologically through the legislative process. Information concerning hearings, specific report numbers, and dates of floor action can be found there. Related bills can be identified and traced by using the subject indexes to find bills on the same topic. If there has been no action on a bill, (i.e., no hearings have been held) then it will not be included in the Status Tables.

c. CIS US Serial Set Index (1789-1969) (REF COLL Docs C_I_S_US, S-1C)

The Serial Set is a collection of congressional documents including the following items:

1. House and Senate reports and documents;
2. Senate treaty documents; and
3. Senate executive reports.

This index to the Serial Set provides access to documents in the United States Congressional Serial Set (15th Congress, 1st session-, 1817-) (Graduate Library, Documents Center [nos. 1-7913 (1817-1921) shelved in Buhr Shelving Facility]), to documents in the American State Papers (1838-1879) (Graduate Library, J 33 or Graduate Library Serials Film X2516), and to documents preceding the Serial Set (1789-1817).

The main finding aid in this index is the subjects and keywords index. There is also an index of names and organizations, but it only covers names or organizations cited in the title of a publication as the subject of private legislation. In addition, there is a Numerical List of Reports and Documents arranged by Congress and session, which is helpful when you already know the publication number. The final access point is the Schedule of Serial Volumes, which lists the assigned numbers and titles of all individual documents contained in each volume. If you have any problems finding what you need, ask a
Reference Librarian at the Reference Desk on S1-C for assistance or consult the detailed User Guide in the first volume of the subject index.

**Although the Law Library does not own the Serial Set itself, the Graduate Library does own it.** The index to the Serial Set will help pinpoint which document you want before going to the Grad to retrieve the document. Photocopy the page of the index that details the material you want and bring it with you to the Graduate Library. Ask a librarian in the Documents Center at the Grad Library for assistance in locating material in the Serial Set.

Note: Volumes 1-7913 (covering the years 1817-1921) of the paper copy of the Serial Set are shelved at Buhr shelving facility. They must be ordered from the circulation department at the Graduate Library or obtained in person at Buhr. The Documents Center at the Grad Library does have the serial set on microfiche (Docs Center, Micro-F DoX30) covering these years, however.

2. Specific Indexes

   a. **CIS US Congressional Committee Hearings Index. 1833-1969** (REF COLL Docs CIS, S-1C)

   Indexes hearings from the 23rd Congress (1833) through the 1st session of the 91st Congress (1969). Access is by subject, organization, title of act, bill number, report and document number, personal name, and Superintendent of Documents number.

   To use this set, first go to the index for the applicable time frame. The index entry will provide an "accession number," (for example, “H303-2-C”) which you will use to find the corresponding abstract in the bibliography volumes. The Graduate Library Documents Center has the hearings on fiche that accompany this index. You will need the year of the index and the CIS accession number to request the fiche. Then ask a librarian in the Documents Center for assistance in locating the hearings on fiche.


   These are two more tools for finding older, unpublished Congressional hearings, and are very similar to other CIS publications. Access is by subject, organizations, titles of acts, bill numbers, and personal names. To see if the Law Library owns a particular document, check Lexcalibur or the Public Card Catalog under "U.S. Congress. House." or "U.S. Congress. Senate." followed by the name of the committee. If it is not in the Law Library, the Graduate Library Documents Center has the full text of these hearings on fiche. Ask a librarian in the Documents Center at the Grad Library for assistance in locating specific hearings on fiche.
c. **CIS U.S. Congressional Committee Prints Index: From the Earliest Publications Through 1969** (REF COLL Docs CIS, S-1C) (or Documents Center at Grad Library, Z1223.Z7 C762 1980)

This index works much like the other CIS indexes. You may access references to committee prints by subject, name, title, Congress and committee, bill number, or Superintendent of Documents number. Once you locate the accession number, the Grad library has the full text of the prints on fiche. Ask a librarian in the Documents Center at the Grad Library for assistance in locating specific committee prints on fiche.

d. **CIS Index to US Senate Executive Documents & Reports: Covering Documents and Reports Not Printed in the US Serial Set, 1817-1969** (REF COLL Docs CIS, S-1C)

This indexes Senate Executive Documents and Reports, which give background on treaties and nominations up for ratification by the Senate. The law library owns the underlying microfiche set: **CIS Senate executive documents and reports [microform]** (Micro-10 S515, available at circulation desk, S-2C). To use: Find the Accession number (for example, “87-1-D10”) for your document in the index volumes, then obtain a microfiche request form at the reference desk (S-1C) or circulation desk (S-2C). Check the box labeled “CIS U.S. Sen. Exec. Doc & Reports” and write the accession number next to it; Check the box labeled “Micro 10 S” and write “515” on the line next to it; and fill out the “citation” section with the rest of the information above the abstract in the index volume, including the document title.

C. INTERNET RESOURCES

There are several Internet resources that provide access to congressional and other Government information. Those listed below are reliable and frequently updated. They are not, however, authoritative; you must still find print versions of documents to satisfy *Bluebook* citation rules.

**University of Michigan Documents Center**
<http://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/Documents.center/index.html>

This well-organized and frequently updated site provides links to a wide variety of indexes, databases, and other full-text resources devoted to international, federal, and state government information.

**Congressional Quarterly Web**
<http://library.cqpress.com/>

Click on “CQ Weekly.” This website contains articles providing background on proposed legislation and has archives searchable back to 1983.

**Congressional Universe** *
<http://web.lexis-nexis.com/congcomp>

This site, available from all University of Michigan computers, provides access to U.S. legislative information from Congressional Information Service, Inc. It offers access to a wealth of information by and about the United States Congress. Congressional Universe allows you to search an index of
congressional publications from 1970 to the present, to retrieve CIS Legislative Histories for public
laws going back to 1970, to find testimony from congressional hearings, to track bills as they move
through the House and Senate, to search the Congressional Record and the Federal Register, to locate
information about members and committees, and to search the National Journal. Congressional
Universe complements the CIS print indexes in REF COLL.

GPO Access *
<http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/>

This site is a repository for official Government information. It provides access to executive,
legislative, and judicial branch documents. In addition, it provides access to a number of reference
tools and research aids, as well as links to other Government-sponsored databases.

Thomas *
<http://thomas.loc.gov>

This site, supported by the Library of Congress, is an official Government web site devoted to
congressional information. You can search Thomas for information regarding current or recent
legislation and committee activity.

D. LEXIS AND WESTLAW

These commercial database services provide access to a variety of congressional materials, including
bill texts, hearings, and debates. Access is restricted to users covered under commercial or academic
contracts.

Some notable Westlaw databases:

The LH database covers congressional committee reports.
The CONGTMY database covers testimony before Congress.
The CR database covers the Congressional Record.
The USCA database covers the United States Code Annotated.
The US-BILLLTRK database provides bill summaries and tracking for current legislation.

Westlaw also has some databases that contain legislative histories for specific acts and also has
databases providing non-current legislative history.

Some notable Lexis databases:

The LEGIS library, CMTRPT file covers committee reports.
The LEGIS library, CMTPRN file covers committee prints.
The GENFED library, BLREC file covers the Congressional Record.
The GENFED library, USCODE file covers the United States Code Service.
The LEGIS library, BLTRCK file covers bill tracking for current legislation.
The LEGIS library, BLTEXT file provides the full text of current bills.

Lexis also has some databases that contain legislative histories for specific acts and on specific topics.
FINDING LEGISLATIVE MATERIALS

Links to Internet resources are usually found on the Law Library’s electronic resources home page <http://141.211.44.51/_LibraryResearchLinks/Resource.asp> Authoritative materials (materials that may be cited in pleadings submitted to courts, in journal articles, or in academic papers) are marked with an asterisk.

Text of Bills & Resolutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Title of Collection</th>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>How to Find</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1789/1791-1897/1899</td>
<td>Bills and resolutions* [Senate]</td>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>FILM X588</td>
<td>film</td>
<td><strong>This item is currently missing.</strong> Librarians from the Graduate Library’s Reference Desk, Serials Services, and Documents Center are ensuring that a search is conducted. The Graduate Library owns this set for the following congresses: 1-11, 13, 15-55.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899-1935</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>Not available on campus. May be available through Interlibrary Loan</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>varies</td>
<td>Ask at the Reference Desk (S-1C) for information about Interlibrary Loans. Non-law students, non-law faculty, and private citizens must obtain interlibrary loan materials through their home libraries – but the reference desk here can assist with finding the necessary information to give to your home library.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1936-1978</td>
<td>A bill .. *</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>Cong Docs</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Need Congress, Session, and Bill number. This collection covers from the 74th Congress, 2nd session to the 95th Congress, 1st Session.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1936 to 1978</td>
<td>Resolution* (House)</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>Cong Docs</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Need Congress, Session, and Resolution number. This collection covers from the 74th Congress, 1st session to the 95th Congress, 2nd session. Shelved after house bills. Some volumes are also located before house bills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
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<td>Library</td>
<td>Call Number</td>
<td>Format</td>
<td>How to Find</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937 to 1978</td>
<td>Resolution* (Senate)</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>Cong Docs</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Need Congress, Session, and Resolution number. This collection covers from the 74th Congress, 2nd session to the 95th congress, 2nd session. Shelved after senate bills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979/1980</td>
<td>[Bills and resolutions] [microform]* [CIS microfiche set]</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>Micro-10 S502</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Need Congress, Session, and Bill or Resolution number. This collection covers from the 96th Congress, 1st session to one or two congresses before the current congress</td>
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<td>[Bills and resolutions] * [U.S. Govt. Printing Office microfiche set]</td>
<td>Grad Documents Center</td>
<td>MICRO-F DoX22</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Need Congress, Session, and Bill number. Use the finding aid entitled <em>Superintendent of Documents Cumulative Finding Aid for Congressional Bills and Resolutions</em> <em>(Grad Docs Center, J 50 .A23)</em>. Ask a librarian in the Documents Center at the Graduate Library for assistance in locating using the finding aid and locating bills. Documents Center drawers containing this fiche are not marked with the MIRLYN call number.</td>
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<td>Current Congress</td>
<td>[Bills and resolutions] [microform]* (former Government Printing Office fiche set)</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>MICRO-10 S503</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Need Congress, Session, and Bill number; use “GPO” finding aid at Reference Desk or Circulation Desk to convert to GPO fiche number. NOTE: Although the Government Printing Office recently stopped publishing its fiche set due to increased web availability, the library has found another vendor for current congress bills and resolutions on fiche. The new vendor’s fiche and finding aid are filed with the old GPO fiche and finding aid.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Library</td>
<td>Call Number</td>
<td>Format</td>
<td>How to Find</td>
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<td>1989- current</td>
<td>Congressional Universe</td>
<td>All on-campus computers</td>
<td><a href="http://web.lexis-nexis.com/congcomp">http://web.lexis-nexis.com/congcomp</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Choose “Bills” link from main menu and select search options.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1993- current</td>
<td>GPO Access</td>
<td>Universal on-line access</td>
<td><a href="http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html">http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Choose “Legislative” link from main menu, and then select the “Congressional Bills” link.</td>
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<td>Universal on-line access</td>
<td><a href="http://thomas.loc.gov">http://thomas.loc.gov</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Choose “Bill Text” link from the main menu, then select number of the Congress, then use bill number or keywords as search terms.</td>
</tr>
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* Authoritative – may be cited
## Hearings

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<th>Dates</th>
<th>Name of Collection</th>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
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<td>1833-1936</td>
<td>Unpublished U.S. House of Representatives committee hearings*</td>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>MICRO-F Do3</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Indexed in <em>CIS Index to Unpublished US House of Representatives Committee Hearings, 1833-1936</em> (<em>Ref Coll, Docs, CIS or Graduate Library Documents Center, KF 40 .C24 1988</em>). Consult librarians at the Documents Center to locate the fiche set. Note that the drawers containing the fiche set are not actually labeled with the call number assigned to the fiche set in MIRLYN.</td>
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<td>Prior to 1935</td>
<td>scattered holdings *</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Use the various CIS hearings indexes to find cite, then check Lexcalibur or the Public Card Catalog. If the Law Library doesn't own, consult librarian at the Documents Center at the Grad Library.</td>
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<td>1823-1974</td>
<td>Unpublished U.S. Senate Committee Hearings [microform]</td>
<td>Grad Docs Center</td>
<td>MICRO-F Do4</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Indexed in *CIS Index to Unpublished US Senate Committee Hearings. (<em>Ref Coll, Docs CIS and Graduate Library, Documents Center, KF 40 .CS51 and KF 40 .C23x 1986</em>). Note: the drawers containing the fiche set are not actually labeled with the call number assigned to the fiche set in MIRLYN. Consult a librarian at the Documents Center for assistance finding the fiche.</td>
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<td>Unpublished U.S. House of Representatives committee hearings*</td>
<td>Grad Docs Center</td>
<td>MICRO-F Do5</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Indexed in <em>CIS Index to Unpublished US House of Representatives Committee Hearings, 1937-1946</em> (<em>Ref Coll Docs CIS and Grad Library Documents Center, KF 40 .C25 1990</em>). Consult librarians at the Documents Center to obtain fiche. Note that the fiche set is not actually labeled with the call number assigned to it in MIRLYN.</td>
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<td>1935-1969</td>
<td>Hearings* (Senate)</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>Cong. Docs.</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Use the various CIS hearings indexes to find cite, then locate text on shelf. See p. 15 of this guide for details.</td>
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<td>1935-1969</td>
<td>Hearings* (House)</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>Cong. Docs.</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Use the various CIS hearings indexes to find cite, then locate text on shelf. See p. 15 of this guide for details.</td>
</tr>
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<td>1937-1968</td>
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<td>Law</td>
<td>Cong. Docs.</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Use the various CIS hearings indexes to find cite, then locate text on shelf. See p. 15 of this guide for details.</td>
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<td>1947-1954</td>
<td>Unpublished U.S. House of Representatives Committee Hearings [microform]*</td>
<td>Grad Docs</td>
<td>MICRO-F Do6</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Indexed in CIS Index to Unpublished US House of Representatives Committee Hearings, 1947-1954 (Ref Coll Docs CIS and Graduate Library Documents Center, KF 40 .C26 1992). Consult librarians at the Documents Center to obtain fiche. Note that the fiche set is not actually labeled with the call number assigned to it in MIRLYN.</td>
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<td>Unpublished U.S. House of Representatives Committee Hearings [1955-1958] [microform]</td>
<td>Grad Docs</td>
<td>MICRO-F Do7</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Indexed in CIS Index to Unpublished US House of Representatives Committee Hearings (Ref Coll Docs CIS and Graduate Library Documents Center, KF 40 .C27 1994). Consult librarians at the Documents Center to obtain fiche. Note that the fiche set is not actually labeled with the call number assigned to it in MIRLYN.</td>
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<td>Unpublished U.S. House of Representatives Committee Hearings</td>
<td>Grad Docs</td>
<td>Not catalogued in MIRLYN</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Indexed in CIS Index to Unpublished US House of Representatives Committee Hearings, 1959-1964 (Ref Coll Docs C_L_S_In – there is no index in the Documents Center). Consult librarians at the Documents Center to obtain fiche. Note that the fiche drawer has no MIRLYN call number.</td>
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<td>1965-1968</td>
<td>Unpublished U.S. House Committee Hearings [microform]*</td>
<td>Grad Docs Center</td>
<td>MICRO-F Do8</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Consult librarians at the Documents Center. Note that the fiche set is not actually labeled with the call number assigned to it in MIRLYN.</td>
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<td>1987/88 to present</td>
<td>Hearings*</td>
<td>Grad Docs Center or Buhr</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Ask a librarian in Docs Center for assistance. Docs center does not have copies of all hearings. Hearings in Docs Center are arranged by committee, so House Judiciary is shelved next to Senate Judiciary. Within a committee, hearings are arranged in chronological order. The paper card catalogue at the docs center has a listing of which hearings are at the docs center and which hearings are in storage at Buhr.</td>
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<td>1969-</td>
<td>CIS Microfiche Library *</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>MICRO-10 S516</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Consult <em>CIS Index to Publications of the U.S. Congress</em> (<em>Ref Coll Docs C_I_S</em> or <em>Docs Center Z 1223 .Z7 C75</em>) to find CIS fiche number. See pp. 13-14 of this guide for details.</td>
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<td><a href="http://web.lexis-nexis.com/congcomp">http://web.lexis-nexis.com/congcomp</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Choose “Testimony” link from main menu and select search options to search by keyword, witness name, committee, and/or date.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997-current</td>
<td>GPO Access</td>
<td>Universal on-line access</td>
<td><a href="http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html">http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Some hearings available; Choose “Legislative” link from main menu, and then select the “Congressional Hearings” link. Select number of Congress, then search by keyword.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Universal on-line access</td>
<td><a href="http://thomas.loc.gov">http://thomas.loc.gov</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Some hearings available. For Senate: Click on “Senate Committees.” Click on name of desired committee, then click again on “[committee] web site.” Hearings coverage and format varies. For House committees, click on “House Committees.” Under “committee quick links” and under “hearings” search by committee.</td>
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* Authoritative – may be cited
## Reports

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<tr>
<td>1817-1921</td>
<td>Serial Set *</td>
<td>Buhr</td>
<td>Documents</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Consult *CIS US Serial Set Index (Ref Coll Docs C_I_S_US, S-1C or Docs Center Z 1223.Z7 C764 1975) to obtain number of volume in the Serial Set. Photocopy index page, and bring to Buhr or order volume at Grad Library circulation desk. Note: Buhr is missing many volumes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(vols. 1-7913)</td>
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<td>1921-1997</td>
<td>Serial Set*</td>
<td>Grad Library Level 6 South</td>
<td>Documents</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>For materials up to 1969, consult *CIS US Serial Set Index (Ref Coll Docs C_I_S_US, S-1C and Docs Center Z 1223.Z7 C764 1975) to obtain number of volume in the Serial Set. Photocopy index page, go to Level 6 South at Grad Lib, and find the volume.</td>
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<td>volumes 7916 – 14,393</td>
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<td>1st Congress to 90th Congress, 2nd Session, 1789 to circa 1974</td>
<td>[Serial Set] [microform]*</td>
<td>Grad Docs Ctr</td>
<td>MICRO-F DoX30</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Use indexes to serial set (available at Law Lib in <em>Ref Coll Docs</em> and at Grad Docs Center, <em>Z 1223.Z7 C764 1975</em>) to find the number of the document needed. Then go to Grad Docs Ctr and request assistance from a librarian. Note that the fiche cabinets are not labeled with the MIRLYN call number.</td>
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<td>69th Congress, 1st Session [no. 8522] to 91st Congress, 1st Session [no. 12880]</td>
<td>Serial Set*</td>
<td>Grad Serials</td>
<td>Micro F X230</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Use indexes to serial set (available at Law Lib in Ref Coll Docs and at Grad Docs Center, Z 1223 .Z7 C764 1975) to find the number of the document needed. Then go to Grad Serials to obtain fiche. Note: As of 5/23/01, this set was not catalogued in MIRLYN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior to 1936</td>
<td>Scattered holdings *</td>
<td>Law Library</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>The law library has about 100 committee reports on various topics prior to 1936 in paper. Consult CIS US Serial Set Index (see p. 14-15); then check Lexcalibur or the Public Card Catalog. If Law Library doesn't own, consult Documents Center in Grad Library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970-</td>
<td>CIS Microfiche Library *</td>
<td>Law Library</td>
<td>MICRO-10 S516</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Consult CIS Index to Publications of the U.S. Congress to find fiche number and year of index. See pp. 13-14 of this guide.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates Covered</td>
<td>Name of collection</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Call Number</td>
<td>Format</td>
<td>How to Find</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approximately 1987/88-1990 to present</td>
<td>Reports*</td>
<td>Grad Documents Center</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Prior holdings of reports are generally in Buhr, except for important exceptions. Holdings in the Documents Center are arranged by Committee (House and Senate Committees on the same issue are shelved next to each other) and by chronological order within each committee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-current</td>
<td>Congressional Universe</td>
<td>U. of Michigan computers</td>
<td><a href="http://web.lexis-nexis.com/congcomp">http://web.lexis-nexis.com/congcomp</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Choose the “Publications” link from main menu, then choose “Reports” link and then search by keyword, committee, congress, or report number.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-current</td>
<td>GPO Access</td>
<td>Universal on-line access</td>
<td><a href="http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html">http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Choose the “Legislative” link from main menu, and then select the “Congressional Reports” link. Search by number of congress, house of congress, and keyword.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-current</td>
<td>THOMAS</td>
<td>Universal on-line access</td>
<td><a href="http://thomas.loc.gov">http://thomas.loc.gov</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Click on “Committee Reports,” then search by keyword, report number, bill number, or committee.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Authoritative – may be cited
## Committee Prints

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Title of Collection</th>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>How to Find</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1820s-1969</td>
<td>[scattered holdings]*</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Consult the U.S. Congressional Committee Prints Index (Ref Coll Docs CIS US and Docs Center, Z 1223 .Z7 C762 1980) and CIS U.S. Serial Set Index (Ref Coll Docs CIS and Docs Center, Z 1223 .Z7 C764 1975) prior to 1969. See pp. 15-16 &amp; 14-15 of this guide. Then search Lexcalibur or MIRLYN, or consult with Documents Center Librarians.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69th Congress, 1st session [no. 8522] to 91st congress, 1st session [no. 12880]</td>
<td>Serial Set#</td>
<td>Grad Serials</td>
<td>Micro F X230</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Use indexes to serial set (available at Law Lib in Ref Coll Docs and at Docs Center, call no. Z 1223 .Z7 C764 1975) to find the number of the document needed. Then go to Grad Serials to get the fiche.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1817-1921 (vols. 1-7913)</td>
<td>Serial Set#</td>
<td>Buhr</td>
<td>Documents</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Consult CIS US Serial Set Index (Ref Coll Docs C_L_S_US, S-1C and Docs Center, Z 1223 .Z7 C764 1975) to obtain number of volume in the Serial Set. Photocopy index page, and bring to Buhr. Note that several volumes of this set are missing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Title of Collection</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Call Number</td>
<td>Format</td>
<td>How to Find</td>
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<tr>
<td>1921-1997</td>
<td>Serial Set* (vols. 7916-14,393)</td>
<td>Grad Library – Level 6 South</td>
<td>Documents</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>For 1921-1969, consult <em>CIS US Serial Set Index</em> (Ref Coll Docs C_I_S_US, S-1C and Docs Center, Z 1223 .Z7 C764 1975) to obtain number of volume in the Serial Set. Photocopy index page, and bring to Level 6 South of Grad Library. Committee prints are in the volumes marked “documents.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Congress to 90th Congress, 2nd session, 1789 to about 1974</td>
<td>[Serial Set ] [microform]*</td>
<td>Grad Docs Ctr</td>
<td>MICRO-F DoX30</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>For 1789-1969, consult <em>CIS US Serial Set Index</em> (Ref Coll Docs C_I_S_US, S-1C and Docs Center, Z 1223 .Z7 C764 1975) to obtain number of volume in the Serial Set. Note that docs center does not have this fiche labeled with the call number given in MIRLYN. Find fiche in black metal fiche cabinet in back room. Label on outside of cabinet reads “CIS U.S. Serial Set.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953 - 1954 83d Congress</td>
<td>Committee prints* [microform]</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>Film S27</td>
<td>film</td>
<td>Obtain from microfilm cabinet in open reserve area on S-2C of Law Library. Each container has a brief notation of contents. Includes prints from House Un-American Activities Committee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Title of Collection</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Call Number</td>
<td>Format</td>
<td>How to Find</td>
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<tr>
<td>1830-1969</td>
<td>CIS Retro Set</td>
<td>Grad Docs Ctr</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Consult Congressional Universe's on-line index to obtain CIS accession numbers (fiche numbers) for your prints. Then consult a librarian at the Documents Center for assistance.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[House Committee Prints]*</td>
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<td>1835-1969</td>
<td>CIS Retro Set</td>
<td>Grad Docs Ctr</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Consult Congressional Universe's on-line index to obtain CIS accession numbers (fiche numbers) for your prints. Then consult a librarian at the Documents Center for assistance.</td>
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<td>[Senate Committee Prints]*</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970 - date</td>
<td>CIS Microfiche Library *</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>MICRO-10 S516</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Consult CIS Index to Publications of the U.S. Congress (Ref Coll Docs C_I_S or Z 1223.Z7 C75) to find fiche number and year of index. See pp. 13-14 of this guide.</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1970 - date</td>
<td>CIS*</td>
<td>Grad Docs Ctr</td>
<td>MICRO-F DoX19</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Consult CIS Index to Publications of the United States Congress (Ref Coll Docs C_I_S or Docs Center, Z 1223.Z7 C75) to get fiche accession number. Ask Docs Center librarians for assistance. Note that the fiche set at the Documents Center is not labeled with the MIRLYN call number.</td>
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<td>Dates</td>
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<td>Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Before 1972</td>
<td>House and Senate Committee Prints*</td>
<td>Grad Library Stacks or (more likely) Buhr Storage Facility</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Consult paper card catalogue at Docs Center. Get call number. Look up call number in MIRLYN to see if item is now at Buhr storage facility. Or search MIRLYN. Author will be “United States. Congress. House. [or Senate]. [Name of Committee].” Title will be “Committee Prints.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973-present</td>
<td>House and Senate Committee Prints*</td>
<td>Grad Docs Center or Buhr Storage Facility</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Library does not have all prints. Paper card catalogue at Docs Center catalogues which committee prints are in the Docs Center and which are at Buhr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-current</td>
<td>GPO Access</td>
<td>Universal online access</td>
<td><a href="http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html">http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Choose “Legislative” link from main menu, and then select the “Congressional Committee Prints” link. Search by keyword and congress.</td>
</tr>
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* Authoritative – may be cited
## Debates

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Dates &amp; Conferences Covered</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>How to Find</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1774-1789 (pre-United States Congress)</td>
<td><em>Journals of the Continental Congress</em></td>
<td>Web</td>
<td><a href="http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lwc.html">http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lwc.html</a></td>
<td>online (PDF)</td>
<td>Browse by date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1774-1789 (pre-United States Congress)</td>
<td><em>Journals of the Continental Congress</em></td>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>J 10 .A5</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Use Index to Journals of the Continental Congress (Grad Library, J 10 .A52 ) shelved with this set.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1789 to 1856</td>
<td>Abridgment of the Debates of Congress, from 1789 to 1856.*</td>
<td>Buhr</td>
<td>J 15 .B48</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Currently shelved in “Preservation” at the Graduate Library. This book is currently being converted into digital format for the Making of America project, and will likely be destroyed in the process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dates &amp; Congresses Covered</td>
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<td>Library</td>
<td>Call Number</td>
<td>Format</td>
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<tr>
<td>1824-1837 (18th Cong, 2d Sess. to 25th Cong, 1st sess)</td>
<td>Register of Debates</td>
<td>Web</td>
<td></td>
<td>online (PDF)</td>
<td>Browse by date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1833-1873 (23rd, 1st Sess.-42d, 2d Sess.)</td>
<td>Congressional Globe *</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>Fed Coll</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Indexes are located at the front of each volume; appendix volumes have their own indexes to the appendix.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1833-1873 (23rd, 1st Sess.-42d, 2d Sess.)</td>
<td>Congressional Globe*</td>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>J 11 .G5</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Indexes are located at the front of each volume; appendix volumes have their own indexes to the appendix.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1833- (23d Cong, 1st session to 42d, Cong, 3d session [and special session])</td>
<td>Congressional Globe</td>
<td>Web</td>
<td></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Browse by date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1873-date (43d, 1st Sess.-date)</td>
<td>Congressional Record *</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>Fed Coll</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Use annual indexes to search by speaker or by topic. See handout at Reference Desk on daily edition v. permanent edition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates &amp; Congresses Covered</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Call Number</td>
<td>Format</td>
<td>How to Find</td>
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<tr>
<td>1873-present (43d Cong, 1st session to present)</td>
<td>Congressional Record *</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>MICRO 10-S210</td>
<td>fiche</td>
<td>Request fiche from Circulation Desk using microfiche request form – need volume number and page number (and date, if possible).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1873-present</td>
<td>Congressional record proceedings and debates of the ...Congress.*</td>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>J 11 .R</td>
<td>paper</td>
<td>Unbound issues for last five or six years in back room of Docs Center.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1873-three to four Congresses before the present</td>
<td>Congressional record proceedings and debates of the ...Congress.*</td>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>FILM X123</td>
<td>film</td>
<td>Note: Grad Serials is currently many years behind receiving this film.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985, Vol. 131 only</td>
<td>Congressional record [computer file] : proceedings and debates of the ...Congress.</td>
<td>Grad Docs Ctr.</td>
<td>CD-ROM DoX48</td>
<td>CD-ROM</td>
<td>Docs Center says it no longer has the technology available to read this disk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985-current</td>
<td>Congressional Universe</td>
<td>On-campus computers only</td>
<td><a href="http://web.lexisnexis.com/congcomp">http://web.lexisnexis.com/congcomp</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Click on the “Publications” link from main menu, then select either “Congressional Record” link or “Congressional Record by page or date” link.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates &amp; Congresses Covered</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Call Number</td>
<td>Format</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-current</td>
<td>GPO Access</td>
<td>Universal</td>
<td><a href="http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html">http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>Congressional Record Index is available from 1983 to present; Congressional Record from 1994 to present. Choose “Legislative” link from main menu, and then select the “Congressional Record” link or the “Congressional Record Index” link.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989-current</td>
<td>THOMAS</td>
<td>Web</td>
<td><a href="http://thomas.loc.gov">http://thomas.loc.gov</a></td>
<td>online</td>
<td>For roll call votes: Click on “Roll Call Votes: House” or “Roll Call Votes: Senate.” For debate text, click on “text search” in the congressional record column.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last 5 or 6 years</td>
<td>Congressional Record (Daily Edition)*</td>
<td>Grad Docs Center</td>
<td>Docs J 11 .R [Note: MIRLYN does not reflect that these are in Docs Center]</td>
<td>paper (unbound)</td>
<td>Look in paper indexes shelved directly after this set.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last 4 or 5 years</td>
<td>Congressional Record (Daily Edition)*</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>Fed Coll</td>
<td>paper (unbound)</td>
<td>Look in paper indexes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Authoritative – may be cited