

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE HISTORY RESEARCH  
AT ORANGE COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

STEP 1: CONSULT ANNOTATED UNITED STATES CODE either:

*United States Code Annotated* (KF 62.W45) or:

*United States Code Service* (KF 62 1972 L3 8) or use WestLaw Database

Note the wording of the statute, its Public Law number, and Statutes at Large citation; examine the Historical and Statutory Notes to note any recent amendments, its Short Title, the purpose and intent of the Act, and Legislative History references to U.S. Code Congressional and Administrative News citations; note Cross References, Library References, and Notes of Decisions related to the statute.

STEP 2: CONSULT *UNITED STATES STATUTES AT LARGE* (KF50.U5)

Examine the text of the statute, including its Statement of Purpose, Short Title, date of enactment, bill number and legislative branch of origin, other margin notes; note the Legislative History notes at the end of the statute- House and/or Senate Reports, Congressional Record (debate, other floor action, votes, etc.), and Presidential Statements, if any.

STEP 3: EXAMINE ALL VERSIONS OF BILL(S) RELATED TO STATUTE

Locate and read all versions of bill(s) [in Microforms Room lektriever at KF 42]; OCLL has bills introduced from 1970-present.

STEP 4: EXAMINE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES

Locate the following and read:

1. House and/or Senate Reports or Hearings, Congressional Record (debate, floor action, etc.). Use the *Congressional Information Service (CIS) Indexes* (fiche KF 49 C62) annual volume entitled "Legislative Histories," to obtain citations to these materials. Refer also to *Sources of Compiled Legislative Histories* (KF42.2)

Note the Superintendent of Documents call numbers provided (look for the "Y"); find Congressional reports and hearings in Microforms Room cabinets or in the lektriever (microfiche), or on first floor shelf (paper format).

*Congressional Record* (KF 3 5) issues are found in microfiche (lektriever in Microforms Room) or in hardcover on third floor.

2. Refer to *United States Code Congressional and Administrative News* (USCCAN) (KF 48 U5) to find selected, reprinted Congressional reports associated with specific Public Laws.

3. Consult OCLL online catalog to identify and locate available reports and hearings documents in paper or microfiche formats.

**Westlaw [electronic resource].** Eagan, MN : Thomson West, 1975-.Floor 3 - Public Computer Network. Legislative History - U.S.Code 1948- present.

## INTERNET SOURCES

<http://www.llsdc.org/sourcebook> The LLSDC Sourcebook is compiled by members of the Legislative Research Special Interest Section. It offers links to Selected Legislation, Thomas, GPO Access Documents, Internet and Online sources of legislative and regulatory information, House and Senate Hearings, and more.

<http://www.lhclearinghouse.com/> Provides links to a complete range of Legislative History, Legislative Intent, and other Legislative Services and Information. Some information is free, other is fee-based.

<http://thomas.gov>. This is the site for the U.S. Congress on the Internet. It offers links to Bills and Public Laws from 1973 to the present, the Congressional Record, from 1989 + , and other historical documents.

<http://www.access.gpo.gov/>. This site offers Legislative, Executive, Judicial, Regulatory and Administrative Decisions from 1994 to present. It also links to the Code of Federal Regulations, Federal Register, Congressional Record, U.S.Code and their databases

<http://Congress.org/> Links to your representatives, capitol directory, and bill searching.

<http://www.llsdc.org/legislative-histories-laws-on-the-internet-free-sources> Legislative Histories of Selected U.S. Laws on the Internet: Free Sources