

FINDING CONGRESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS
ON A LAW
(LEGISLATIVE HISTORY)

For laws passed from 1970 on:

LexisNexis Congressional. Library web site. Research by Subject. Government.

Choose “Legislative Histores” from the left side menu, then search by keyword or choose the “Get a Docment” tab if you know the public law number.

Some information is also included in U.S. Code and Congressional Administrative News (LAW). Arranged by year and public law number. First part of each year contains the text of each law. After that there is a legislative history section by law number. There is a subject index at the end of each year.

For laws passed before 1970:

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LexisNexis Congressional. Can search by subject or use “Search by Number” tab to search by original bill number.

Other possibilities include the print indexes Monthly Catalog, which can only be searched by subject, and CCH Congressional Index (Gov Ref J 69 .C6), which can provide some information by bill number.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY EXERCISES

1. Use LexisNexis Congressional to locate a list of all the congressional publications related to the Improving America's Schools Act. What is the SuDoc number of the first hearing listed?

2. Use LexisNexis Congressional to locate the legislative history of Public Law 104-182. What is the name of the law? What is the number of the first Senate Report listed?

3. Find legislative history information for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. Use U.S. Code and Administrative News. What reports are included in their entirety?