Resources without URLs that are marked with ★ are also available via the Web, entirely or in part. See the Web version of this guide for links: http://libguides.csufresno.edu/fedleg

Bills and Bill Status

*Bills are drafts of laws which propose new laws, or amend or repeal existing law.*

Thomas: Legislative Information on the Internet.  thomas.loc.gov

Text of bills from 1989 on; bill summary and status from 1973 on.

★ *Congressional Record Index, History of Bills and Resolutions*.  Gov Reference  KF 35 .C6  1911-

- Does not contain the text of the bills: lists legislative actions on bills reported in the Cong. Rec.
- Entries give the bill number, title, summary, sponsors/cosponsors, and list actions on the bill giving the *Congressional Record* page and date. E.g., S5798 [9JN] = Senate section, page 5798, June 9

Floor Action: Congressional Record

*The Congressional Record is the official record of the proceedings and debates of Congress.*

Thomas: Legislative Information on the Internet:  thomas.loc.gov

Has the text of the *Congressional Record* from 1989 on, and also links to it from the *Bill Status* section.

The Library also has the *Congressional Record* and its predecessors. For more information including earlier dates and library locations, see the Maps & Government Information guide *Congressional Record*.

Background, News, Summaries of Legislation

*CQ Weekly*:  http://iii.lib.csufresno.edu/search/?tcq+weekly+congres

Off campus connection requires login

Weekly summary of congressional activities; highlights of issues & legislation; votes on major legislation.

*Congressional Quarterly Almanac Plus*.  Reference  JK 1 .C663  1945-

Annual survey of legislation. Includes summaries of major issues and actions and voting records.

Committee Action (Hearings & Reports)


Check the *library catalog* or with Maps & Government Information for titles not available online.

Thomas: Legislative Information on the Internet:  thomas.loc.gov

Links to reports and selected hearings from 1995 on.


Quick Links to … Committee Hearings & other Publications:  http://www.llsdc.org/quick-links/

LexisNexis Congressional.  1970-  Connect via Library database list

Off campus connection requires login

Indexes congressional hearings, reports and other publications (the Library will have most of these).
Roll Call Votes

CQ Weekly:  http://iii.lib.csufresno.edu/search/?tcq+weekly+congressional
Off campus connection requires login
In the Weekly Report section, under For the Record, select Votes Chart.
➢ To see previous issues, click to open the Read Recent Issues box under the CQ Press logo (top left of the screen).

Congressional Quarterly Almanac Plus.  Reference JK 1 .C663 1945-

Voting Information from Thomas: Legislative Information on the Internet:
➢ Roll Call Votes, 1989-  thomas.loc.gov/home/rollcallvotes.html
➢ Bill Summary & Status:   thomas.loc.gov/home/bills_res.html
  Includes roll call numbers since 1975, and links to roll call votes since 1991.
➢ Compiling a Member Voting Record:   thomas.loc.gov/home/votes/member.html
  How to find voting records for members of Congress.

Voting Record Project Vote Smart:
www.votesmart.org/official_five_categories.php?dist=voting_category.php
  Select a state, Congress, member, then Voting Record.

Resume of Congressional Activity:  www.senate.gov/pagelayout/reference/two_column_table/Resumes.htm
  1947- present, includes total number of yea/nay and roll call votes per session

Presidential Action

  The official publication of presidential statements, messages, remarks, and other materials released by the White House Press Secretary.

White House Briefing Room:  www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room
  Update the Weekly Compilation by looking through recent press releases on this site.


Presidential Vetoes via Thomas: Legislative Information on the Internet:
  Bills, Resolutions:   thomas.loc.gov/home/bills_res.html
  1. Select Bill Summary & Status.
  2. Select a Congress.
  3. Under Browse by, select Vetoed Bills

Presidential Vetoes (1789-  )  clerk.house.gov/art_history/house_history/vetoes.html
  Number and type of vetoes by each President, and number overridden

Legislative Histories

LexisNexis Congressional.  1970-  Connect via Library database list  Off campus connection requires login
  Has legislative histories listing publications related to the passage of each Public Law from 1984- .


Legislative Histories of Selected U.S. Laws in Electronic Format:  www.llsdc.org/Leg-Hist

Guides to the Legislative Process


Other resources are on the Web version of this guide:  libguides.csufresno.edu/fedleg

C. Doyle  19 November 2010