



**Congressional
Research Service**

Informing the legislative debate since 1914

Publications of the U.S. House of Representatives

name redacted

Analyst on the Congress

May 21, 2014

Congressional Research Service

7-....

www.crs.gov

98-406

The U.S. House of Representatives produces several publications relating to the legislative functions of the House. They include, but are not limited to, publications dealing with rules and procedures, bills, anticipated and past legislative activities, committee matters, and chamber proceedings. This report provides a brief description of these publications.

Chamber Activity Publications

- The **House Journal** is the official record of the House used to chronicle all actions such as motions offered, bills introduced, amendments offered and agreed to, voting actions, quorums, etc. As required by the Constitution, the *Journal* records the official actions of the House for each legislative day, and is published on a periodic basis. At the beginning of each legislative day, the House votes to approve the journal of the preceding legislative day.
- The **Congressional Record** includes the daily proceedings and debates in the House (and Senate) chambers. The proceedings of the House are reflected in the text that is prepared by the official reporters of the House, who record verbatim each word spoken. Members are also permitted to submit materials and speeches for inclusion in the *Record*. The *Record* reports all votes, bills introduced, bills reported from committee, and a wealth of other House, committee, and non-legislative information.
- **Calendars of the U.S. House of Representatives and History of Legislation** is a compilation of all calendars maintained in the House—the Corrections Calendar, House Calendar, Private Calendar, and Union Calendar. The publication is popularly called the “House Calendar,” and contains a useful legislative history of each House and Senate bill that has been reported from a committee. It is prepared and updated under the direction of the clerk of the House for each day the House is in session. (See CRS Report 98-437, *Calendars of the House of Representatives*, by (name redacted).)

Procedural Publications

- The **House Rules and Manual** is published each Congress under the title *Constitution, Jefferson’s Manual, and Rules of the House of Representatives*, and provides information regarding the rules and procedures of the House of Representatives. The *House Manual* is published during the first session of each Congress, and includes a synopsis of rulings and precedents.
- **House Practice: A Guide to the Rules, Precedents and Procedures of the House** summarizes procedures most commonly used in the House and provides an explanation for those procedures used most often. The 2003 edition was prepared by Parliamentarian Charles W. Johnson.
- **Deschler’s Precedents of the U.S. House of Representatives** identifies the House precedents and practices of the House from 1936 through 1986. The compilation of volumes 1-9 of this multivolume series was initially undertaken by the late Parliamentarian Lewis Deschler. Precedents and practices since 1986 have been published under the title *Deschler-Brown Precedents of the U.S. House of Representatives*, which begins with volume 10.

- ***Hinds' and Cannon's Precedents of the U.S. House of Representatives*** provides an historical overview and in-depth description of House precedents during the period 1789 through 1936. This multivolume series was compiled by two House parliamentarians who later became Congressmen (Clarence A. Cannon, D-MO, and Asher C. Hinds, R-ME).

For additional information on procedural publications, see CRS Report 98-309, *House Legislative Procedures: Published Sources of Information*, by (name redacted).

Committee Publications

- **Hearing Transcripts** include the proceedings of House committee hearings and are published by the committee that held the hearings.
- **Committee Prints** are produced in various forms for committee business, such as drafts of legislation and analyses in support of legislation.
- **Committee Reports** prepared by committees and published by the House provide a narrative account of a study or approved measure. They include the history and explanation of committee-approved measures, funding ramifications, and changes made in existing law.

Other Publications

- **House Documents** contain original or historical documents statutorily authorized for production in this manner or otherwise of importance for House business, such as messages of the President.
- ***Statement of Disbursements of the House*** is compiled quarterly by the chief administrative officer, and includes expenditures, receipts and other costs incurred by the House.

Author Contact Information

(name redacted)
Analyst on the Congress
-redacted-@crs.loc.gov, 7-....

Acknowledgments

This report was originally written by Faye M. Bullock, formerly a Technical Information Specialist at CRS. The listed author updated the report and is available to answer questions concerning its contents.

EveryCRSReport.com

The Congressional Research Service (CRS) is a federal legislative branch agency, housed inside the Library of Congress, charged with providing the United States Congress non-partisan advice on issues that may come before Congress.

EveryCRSReport.com republishes CRS reports that are available to all Congressional staff. The reports are not classified, and Members of Congress routinely make individual reports available to the public.

Prior to our republication, we redacted names, phone numbers and email addresses of analysts who produced the reports. We also added this page to the report. We have not intentionally made any other changes to any report published on EveryCRSReport.com.

CRS reports, as a work of the United States government, are not subject to copyright protection in the United States. Any CRS report may be reproduced and distributed in its entirety without permission from CRS. However, as a CRS report may include copyrighted images or material from a third party, you may need to obtain permission of the copyright holder if you wish to copy or otherwise use copyrighted material.

Information in a CRS report should not be relied upon for purposes other than public understanding of information that has been provided by CRS to members of Congress in connection with CRS' institutional role.

EveryCRSReport.com is not a government website and is not affiliated with CRS. We do not claim copyright on any CRS report we have republished.