

Legislative Research for Congressional Staff: How to Find Documents and Other Resources

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Summary

This report is one of a series of reports on legislative process and research; it is intended to serve as a finding aid to sources of information, such as documents, news articles, analysis, contacts and services, used in legislative research. It does not define or describe the purpose of various government documents; that information can be found in companion CRS Report R41865, *Legislative History Research: A Guide to Resources for Congressional Staff* and CRS Report RL33895, *Researching Current Federal Legislation and Regulations: A Guide to Resources for Congressional Staff*. This report is not intended to be a definitive list of all resources, but rather a guide to pertinent subscriptions available in the House and Senate in addition to select resources freely available to the public. This report is intended for use by Members and congressional office staff and will be updated annually.

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Introduction

During the legislative process, many documents are prepared by Congress and its committees. Governmental and non-governmental entities track and record congressional activities, and many more entities chronicle and analyze the development of public policy. The wide availability of such information can be overwhelming to those involved in legislative research. The purpose of this report is to assist Members and congressional staff in identifying and accessing key resources used during legislative research.

The report does not define or describe the purpose of the various information resources and documents; that information can be found in companion CRS Report R41865, *Legislative History Research: A Guide to Resources for Congressional Staff* and CRS Report RL33895, *Researching Current Federal Legislation and Regulations: A Guide to Resources for Congressional Staff*.

This report is not a comprehensive catalog of resources for conducting legislative research; instead it provides a selection of widely used resources. Some of the resources mentioned are only available with a paid subscription while others are free: this availability is noted in the report along with the access points for Members and congressional staff. The inclusion of resources in this report does not imply endorsement by the Congressional Research Service (CRS) of the content or the products listed. In addition, CRS does not acquire or manage congressional offices' access to subscription resources.

CRS is available for consultation on legislative research or to perform legislative research upon request. CRS can also advise Members and congressional staff on the use of the resources listed in this report, including advice on how to select the best resource to use, how to search for information within a resource, or how to develop the most effective research methodology. This report is one of a series of reports on legislative process and research; see **Table A-2** for other reports in the series.

Legislative Research: Documents and Resources

The resource titles and access points are presented in four tables. The tables provide information on how to find congressional and other government documents relevant to the legislative process (**Table 1**); information from congressional news sources and legislative support agencies (**Table 2**); experts and contacts from think tanks, academia, executive branch agencies, and CRS (**Table 3**); and research-related training and services for Members and congressional staff (**Table 4**).

Table 1 serves as a reference guide for locating legislative and executive branch documents using free, subscription, and restricted access resources. The first column of the table contains documents commonly used in legislative research. The second column lists where these documents can be found. The third column contains typical citations for the documents listed in the first column. The fourth column contains explanatory notes and references to other information.

Italicized entries in the second column indicate a subscription-based resource available in most House and Senate offices and also at CRS reference centers (whose locations and hours of

operation are available in **Table 4**). Unless otherwise indicated, all other resources listed are freely available to all congressional offices.

Table A-1 provides additional information on the items contained in **Table 1**, including more detailed descriptions and URLs linking directly to the resources (when available).

Document	Access Points ^a	Example Citations ^b	Notes
Bills and Amendmen	ts		
Bills and Resolutions 1993 to present	LIS.gov or Congress.gov CQ.com	H.R. 123, S.Res. 200	See CRS reports on Bills and Resolutions: Origins and Introduction. ^c
	ProQuest Congressional		For a basic explanation of how a bill becomes law, see Figure A-I .
Bills and Resolutions before 1993	Law Library of Congress (or call CRS: 7-5700) ProQuest Congressional	S. 236, H.Con.Res. 728	The Law Library Reading Room contains microfiche microfilm, and ultrafiche materials, including federa bills and resolutions dating back to the 1st Congress. ^d
			CRS has access to ProQues Congressional, which offers bill and resolution text going back to 1789. Years of coverage in House and Senate subscriptions to ProQuest Congressional may differ.
Floor Amendments	LIS.gov or Congress.gov (1981 – present)	S.Amdt. 15, H.Amdt. 75	Published in the Congressional Record.
	Senate Amendment Tracking System <i>CQ.com</i>		On LIS.gov, amendments can be found under "Bill Status with Amendments" or "Amendments" on the Bill Summary & Status pag
			On Congress.gov, amendments can be found under the "Amendments" tab or the "Actions" tab, clicking "All Actions, including Floor Amendments" on a bill page.

Table I. Legislative and Executive Branch Documents

Document	Access Points ^a	Example Citations ^b	Notes
Laws			
Statutes (laws)	LIS.gov or Congress.gov (1995 – present)	P.L. 111-148, 124 Stat. 119	LIS.gov links to GPO FDsys and Congress.gov hosts the
	ProQuest Congressional		GPO PDF of the law For older laws, refer to ProQuest Congressional or call CRS at 7-5700.
U.S. Code	uscode.house.gov	42 USC 543, 35 U.S.C. §123(a)	The main edition of the U.S. Code is published
	Cornell LII	3123(a)	every six years by the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives, with annual cumulative supplements. The current edition of the Code was published in 2006.
Floor Debate			
Congressional Record Bound	ProQuest Congressional	142 Cong. Rec. 15466	The Congressional Record bound edition is the permanent version. Its text is somewhat edited, revised and rearranged in comparison to the daily version. The pagination is continuous for each session; but there is no H, S, or E (for Extensions of Remarks) before each page number. There is a volume number for each session and numerous parts to each volume. The final two volumes of the permanent <i>Record</i> of each session are an index containing a history of bills and resolutions and a compilation of Daily Digests for the session.

Document	Access Points ^a	Example Citations ^b	Notes
Congressional Record Daily	LIS.gov or Congress.gov (1989 – present)	158 Cong. Rec. H5618	The Congressional Record daily edition reports each
	CQ.com		day's proceedings in Congress and is published
	ProQuest Congressional		on the succeeding day. Pagination is preceded by an H, S, or E, to indicate whether the recorded text took place in the House, the Senate, or was an Extension of Remarks. Periodically, throughout a session, indices to the daily <i>Record</i> are published.
Floor Votes	CQ.com	Roll no. 30, Record Vote	Votes are published in
	LIS.gov or Congress.gov (1990 – present)	Number: 11	Congressional Record. On LIS.gov, votes can be found under "Major Actions"
	House.gov		while viewing Bill Summary & Status. On
	Senate.gov		Congress.gov, see the
	CQ Almanac (for votes pre- 1990)		"Actions" tab under "Major Actions." To find votes on specific issues, over a time period, or other criteria, call CRS at 7-5700.
Committee Actions			
Committee Schedules	CQ.com		See CQ Schedules.
	LIS.gov or Congress.gov		
	House.gov		
	Senate.gov		
Committee Hearings	Committee websites	S. Hrg. 106-67	
(official)	GPO FDsys		
	ProQuest Congressional		
Committee Hearing	CQ.com		Consider contacting the
Transcripts and Webcasts (unofficial)	C-Span		committee staff for hearing transcripts unavailable
	Committee websites		through these sources.
Committee Reports	LIS.gov or Congress.gov (1995 – present)	H.Rept. 112-14, S.Rept. 110-55	
	CQ.com		
	ProQuest Congressional		
Committee Markup	CQ.com		
	Committee websites		

Document	Access Points ^a	Example Citations ^b	Notes
Committee Rosters	CQ.com		
	GPO FDsys		
	Committee websites		
Committee Prints	GPO FDsys	S. Prt. 109-88	
	ProQuest Congressional		
Draft Legislation	Committee websites		For CQ.com, see the CQ
	CQ.com		"Hot Docs" page.
	Sponsor's website		
Regulations			
Rules, Proposed Rules,	FederalRegister.gov	59 Federal Register 4233	Published in the Federal
and Notices	GPO FDsys		Register. See corresponding entry in Table A-I for
	Regulations.gov		additional information.
General and Permanent Rules (codified)	GPO FDsys	15 C.F.R. 254	Published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).
Executive Branch Info	rmation		
Executive Orders	National Archives	E.O. 12893	Published in the Federal Register, Compilation of Presidential Documents, and title 3 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
	GPO FDsys		
Grants	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance		See CRS Report RL34035, Grants Work in a Congressional Office, CRS Report RL34012, Resource for Grantseekers, and CRS Report RL32159, How to Develop and Write a Grant Proposal.
Presidential Signing Statements	GPO FDsys		Published in the Federal Register, Compilation of Presidential Documents. See CRS Reports on Presidential Action on Legislation.
The President's Fiscal Year Budget Proposal	OMB		See CRS Report 98-721,
	GPO FDsys		Introduction to the Federal Budget Process and CRS Report R42384, FY2013 Budget Documents: Internet and GPO Availability.

Document	Access Points ^a	Example Citations ^b	Notes
Miscellaneous Inform	nation		
Appropriations Bills	CRS Appropriations Status Table		Available from FY1999- Present on CRS.gov.
			See also CRS Report R42388, The Congressional Appropriations Process: An Introduction.
Cost Estimates of Current Bills	СВО		Published under the "Cost Estimates" section of the website.
Legislative Histories (compilations)	ProQuest Congressional		See CRS Report R41865, Legislative History Research: A Guide to Resources for Congressional Staff.
State Laws and Regulations	LLSDC: State Legislatures, Laws, and Regulations		For assistance on identifying state laws and regulations, call CRS at 7- 5700.
Treaties	LIS.gov		See CRS Report 98-384,
	Senate.gov		Senate Consideration of Treaties.
	Law Library of Congress (or call CRS: 7-5700)		

Source: Compiled by the Congressional Research Service (CRS).

Notes: Plain text indicates the resource listed is freely available; *Italics* indicate a subscription-based resource available in most House and Senate offices, and also at CRS research centers.

- a. More detailed descriptions and direct links to these resources are available in Table A-I.
- b. For official legal citation style, refer to: The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation (https://www.legalbluebook.com). The Government Printing Office Style Manual is another guide for official citation formats and is available online at http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/search/pagedetails.action?granuleId=& packageId=GPO-STYLEMANUAL-2008.
- c. Refer to the Congressional Operations section of the CRS website for a list of reports providing analysis, resources, and information on key legislative and administrative processes and procedures of the Congress.
- d. For further information, refer to the Law Library's page on microtext collections at http://www.loc.gov/law/ find/microtext.php.

News and Analysis

Table 2 serves as a finding aide for resources covering current events related to Congress and the legislative process. Resources in this table may contain editorial content and discussion. Inclusion of these resources does not imply endorsement of the views held by the publications listed.

	Resource	Access Points
Congressional News & Analysis	CQ	http://www.cq.com
	The Hill	http://www.thehill.com/
	National Journal	http://www.nationaljournal.com/
	Politico	http://www.politico.com/
	Roll Call	http://www.rollcall.com/
	Bloomberg Government (BGOV)	http://about.bgov.com/
	Bloomberg BNA	http://www.bna.com/
	Political blogs	http://technorati.com/blogs/ directory/politics/uspolitics/
	Journal articles & historical news through Library of Congress databases	Databases such as ProQuest, LexisNexis, Factiva, JSTOR, and EBSCOhost, along with numerous others are available for use onsite at CRS research centers and the public reading rooms at the Library of Congress. See a list of all databases at http://eresources.loc.gov/
Legislative Support Agency Analysis & Resources	Congressional Research Service (CRS)	http://www.crs.gov/
	Congressional Budget Office (CBO)	http://www.cbo.gov/
	Government Accountability Office (GAO)	http://www.gao.gov/

Table 2. Selected Reso	ources for News and	Analysis and Relevant	Legislative Research
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Notes: Plain text indicates the resource listed is freely available; *Italics* indicate a subscription-based resource available in most House and Senate offices, and also at CRS research centers.

Table 3 provides sources and tools to identify experts and contacts outside Congress from the legislative support agencies, executive branch, academia, non-profits, and think tanks. The resources below include directories, databases and lists available through House and Senate libraries, reference centers, and online. Contacts from these sources may provide partisan views or analysis. Inclusion of these sources does not imply endorsement of the views held by contacts found using these tools.

Name (Publisher)	Access	Notes
The Leadership Library (Leadership Directories, Inc.)	CRS Reference Centers – online access online access via kiosk PCs; see Table 4 for locations	Formerly known as the Yellow Books. Contact information for over 500,000 leaders of 40,000 United States government, business, professional and
	Senate Library– online access, also available in all Senate offices.	nonprofit organizations.
	House Library – print version only	

Table 3. Finding Experts and Contacts

Name (Publisher)	Access	Notes
Encyclopedia of Associations (Gale)	CRS Reference Centers – online access online access via kiosk PCs; see Table 4 for locations	Detailed information concerning 23,000+ nonprofit American membership organizations of national scope.
	Senate Library – online access	
National Directory of Nonprofit Organizations (Gale)	CRS Reference Centers – online access online access via kiosk PCs; see Table 4 for locations	Contact and basic factual information on the largest nonprofit organizations in the United States.
National Trade and Professional Associations of the United States (Columbia Books)	CRS Reference Centers – print version (LCRR and RRC; see Table 4 for locations)	Lists more than 7,500 trade associations, labor unions, professional societies, and similar national groups.
	House Library – print version	
Washington Information Directory (CQ)	CRS Reference Centers – print version (LCRR and RRC; see Table 4 for location)	Guide to Washington, DC, area governmental and private organizations is arranged in 20 broad subject areas. Under each area, pertinent federal departments
	House Library – print version	and agencies, and private nonprofit organizations are listed.
	Senate Library – print version	
Washington Representatives (Columbia Books)	CRS Reference Centers – print version (LCRR and RRC; see Table 4 for location)	This is a list of 17,000 Washington contacts of U.S. trade associations, professional societies, labor unions,
	House Library – print version	corporations, and various special interest and public interest groups.
	Senate Library – print version	
CRS Report 98-446, Congressional Liaison Offices of Selected Federal Agencies	CRS website: http://www.crs.gov/ resources/Pages/ liaisonoffices.aspx	This list of about 200 congressional liaison offices is intended to help congressional offices in contacting government agencies. (For congressional use only.)
Social Sciences Citation Index (Web of Knowledge/Thompson Reuters)	CRS Reference Centers – online access (use "Congressional Bookmarks" see Table 4 for locations)	Covers 2,700 of the most important journals in the social sciences and allows users to identify subject area experts.
Federal Register	FederalRegister.gov	This site is jointly administered by the National Archives and Records Administration and the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) to provide an unofficial, HTML edition of the daily Federal Register to make it easier for citizens and communities to understand the regulatory process and to participate in government decision-making. Notices and proposed rules include contact information for the relevant agency experts.
Congressional Research Service	http://www.crs.gov	For confidential, authoritative, and objective research and analysis on issues before Congress. Contact analysts through "Find an Analyst" on CRS.gov, from author contact information reports, or by calling CRS at 7-5700.

Training and Services

Table 4 contains a list of locations where congressional staff can obtain training and other services on Capitol Hill.

Name	Location and Contact	Hours	Services
Congressional Research	n Service (CRS)		
CRS	http://www.crs.gov	M-Th 8a-8p F 8a-6p (Sat 10a-5p when	Research and analysis related to legislative issues
	Call CRS 7-5700 (202-707-		Personalized office briefings.
	5700) and press 1, 5	Congress is in session)	Training in the following topics: -Appropriations and Budget -Federal Legal Research -Legislative Process -Policy and Legal Seminars -Programs for District Offices
			For training and program descriptions and current schedules, visit: http://www.crs.gov/ programs/Pages/ TrainingProgramDescriptions.aspx
CRS Reference Centers			
La Follette Congressional Reading Room (LCRR)	Library of Congress, Madison Building: LM-202	M-Th 10a-8p F 10a-6p	Database access; reference and research assistance.
	Phone: 7-7100	Sat 10a-5p when Congress is in session	
Rayburn Reference	House, Rayburn B07	M-F 10a-4p	Database access; reference and research
Center (RRC)	Phone: 5-6958		assistance.
CRS Senate Center	Senate, Russell B335	M-F 10a-4p	Database access, meeting space for CRS training
	Phone: 7-5978		and private briefings.
Library of Congress (no	on-CRS)		
Congressional Relations	http://www.loc.gov/lcnet/	8:30a-6p	Book loans, tours of the Library of Congress,
Office (CRO)	(202) 707-6577		constituent services, educational resources.
Law Library	Library of Congress, Madison Building: LM-201	M-F 8:30a-9:30p Sat 8:30a-5p, and whenever Congress is in session	Assists Congress with information and analys on U.S., foreign, comparative and internation
	202-707-2700		law.
	http://www.loc.gov/law/		Training in the following topics: -Legislative research -Statutory research -Orientation to Law Library collections - Congress.gov

Table 4. Training and Services

Name	Location and Contact	Hours	Services
House of Representati	ves		
House Learning Center	B249B/C Longworth HOB	M-F 8:30a-5:30p	Legislative training topics include:
	202-226-3800		-Legislative Concepts (taught by CRS)
	HLC@mail.house.gov		-Legislative Information System (LIS.gov) and Congress.gov
	https://housenet.house.gov/ training		-ProQuest -National Journal -GAO: An Introduction to the Congressional Watchdog
		Other topics such as Constituent Correspondence, ethics, and many more are also available for online and in-person training.	
House Library	263 Cannon	M-F 9a-6p	Research assistance, subject guides, database
	202-225-9000		access and training.
	library@mail.house.gov		
	http://extranet.clerk.house.g ov/library		
Senate			
Senate Library	Russell B15	M-F 9a-6p (and whenever the Senate is in session)	Research assistance and training.
	202-224-7106		Training includes
	reference@sec.senate.gov		-News resources
	http://webster/library		-Congressional Record -Desktop research tools -LIS.gov and Congress.gov -Other classes and custom training is available

Appendix. Additional Resources

Table A-I. Legislative Research Resources

(Provides additional details on information explored in **Table I**)

Resource	Description	URL
Congress.gov	Congress.gov is the official source for federal legislative information. It will eventually replace LIS.gov, though both sites are currently up to date and in use. The new Congress.gov provides: (1) a single search across all available information and all dates; (2) meaningful, permanent URLs; (3) faceted search; (4) Member profiles and (5) legislative histories. The new site permits legislative branch devices to access CRS reports and products from bill records, the homepage and help pages. It currently includes all data sets available on LIS.gov and THOMAS, with the exception of treaties and communications, which will be added in 2015. For now, treaties and communications can be accessed on LIS.gov.	http://www.congress.gov/
СВО	The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) produces independent analyses of budgetary and economic issues to support the congressional budget process. CBO does not make policy recommendations.	http://www.cbo.gov/
CQ	This subscription database provides bill texts, summaries, tracking, and analysis. Also includes (but not limited to) roll-call votes, legislative histories, floor and committee schedules, detailed committee coverage, hearing transcripts. Coverage varies by information category. CQ.com is available in all Senate and in most House offices.	http://www.cq.com
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance	The CFDA is the primary source of information on federal grants and nonfinancial assistance programs; actual funding depends upon annual budget appropriations. After grantseekers identify federal programs in CFDA and contact state agency representatives, they may register and apply at websites such as Grants.gov (http://www.grants.gov) or FedConnect (http://www.fedconnect.net).	https://www.cfda.gov
Cornell LII	The Cornell Legal Information Institute provides an unofficial but freely available, searchable and easy to navigate version of the U.S. Code.	http://www.law.cornell.edu/

Resource	Description	URL	
C-SPAN	C-SPAN is a private, nonprofit company that provides public access to the political process. Includes a searchable video library of hearings, floor debate, press conferences, speeches, and other types of news programs and events.	http://www.c-span.org	
Federalregister.gov	This site is jointly administered by the National Archives and Records Administration and the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) to provide an unofficial, HTML edition of the daily Federal Register to make it easier for citizens and communities to understand the regulatory process and to participate in government decision-making.	http://www.federalregister.gov	
GPO's FDsys	The Government Printing Office Federal Digital System provides free online access to official publications from all three branches of the federal government.	http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/	
Law Librarians' Society of Washington, DC	LLSDC provides a freely available list of state legislatures, laws, and regulations websites and contact information. In addition, the LLSDC provides a set of legislative research guides called the Legislative Source Book (http://llsdc.org/sourcebook/).	http://www.llsdc.org/state-legislation	
LIS.gov	The purpose of the Legislative Information System (LIS) is to provide Members of Congress and their staff with access to legislative information that is accurate, timely, and complete. LIS is not available to the public. LIS will be replaced by Congress.gov sometime after the close of 2014.	http://www.lis.gov/	
National Archives and Records Administration	Disposition Tables contain information about Executive Orders beginning with those signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and are arranged according to presidential administration and year of signature. The tables are compiled and maintained by the Office of the Federal Register editors.	http://www.archives.gov/federal- register/executive-orders/	
Office of Management and Budget	The OMB website provides the President's Budget, including, for example: Analytical Perspectives (http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/ budget/Analytical_Perspectives), the Appendix (http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/ Appendix), and Historical Tables (http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/ Historicals).	http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/ budget	

Resource	Description	URL
ProQuest Congressional	DeQuest Congressional This subscription database contains detailed abstracts and links to the full text of many congressional and federal documents, such as the <i>Congressional Record</i> , congressional hearing transcripts, committee prints, and legislative histories. Length of coverage varies depending on the category of information, although most categories are covered starting in 1789 or at some point in the 1800s. <i>ProQuest</i> <i>Congressional</i> is available to all House and Senate offices.	
Reginfo.gov	This site provides information about the status of agency documents undergoing Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) review.	http://www.reginfo.gov/public/
Regulations.gov	This site provides a government-wide portal for the public to review and comment on published regulatory actions and to view any supporting materials provided by the agency.	http://www.regulations.gov
Senate Amendment Tracking System	The Amendment Tracking System (ATS) is a web application that displays images of submitted and proposed amendments to legislation pending before the U.S. Senate. Amendments are available on ATS approximately fifteen minutes after the Bill Clerk receives them.	http://ats.senate.gov/

Table A-2. Related CRS Products

CRS Report 98-169, House Committee Reports: Required Contents, by Judy Schneider

CRS Report 98-305, Senate Committee Reports: Required Contents, by Elizabeth Rybicki

CRS Report 98-429, The Senate's Calendar of Business, coordinated by Elizabeth Rybicki

CRS Report 98-437, Calendars of the House of Representatives, by Christopher M. Davis

CRS Report 98-438, The Senate's Executive Calendar, coordinated by Elizabeth Rybicki

CRS Report 98-446, Congressional Liaison Offices of Selected Federal Agencies, by Audrey Celeste Crane-Hirsch

CRS Report 98-706, Bills and Resolutions: Examples of How Each Kind Is Used, by Richard S. Beth

CRS Report 98-728, Bills, Resolutions, Nominations, and Treaties: Characteristics, Requirements, and Uses, by Richard S. Beth

CRS Report R40897, Congressional Printing: Background and Issues for Congress, by R. Eric Petersen and Amber Hope Wilhelm

CRS Report R41865, Legislative History Research: A Guide to Resources for Congressional Staff, by Julia Taylor

CRS Report R43075, FY2014 Budget Documents: Internet and GPO Availability, by Jared C. Nagel

CRS Report R42638, Appropriations: CRS Experts, by Jennifer E. Lake and Justin Murray

CRS Report RL30787, Parliamentary Reference Sources: House of Representatives, by Richard S. Beth and Megan S. Lynch

CRS Report RL30788, Parliamentary Reference Sources: Senate, by Megan S. Lynch and Richard S. Beth

CRS Report RL30812, Federal Statutes: What They Are and Where to Find Them, by Cassandra L. Foley

CRS Report RL33895, Researching Current Federal Legislation and Regulations: A Guide to Resources for Congressional Staff, by Jerry W. Mansfield

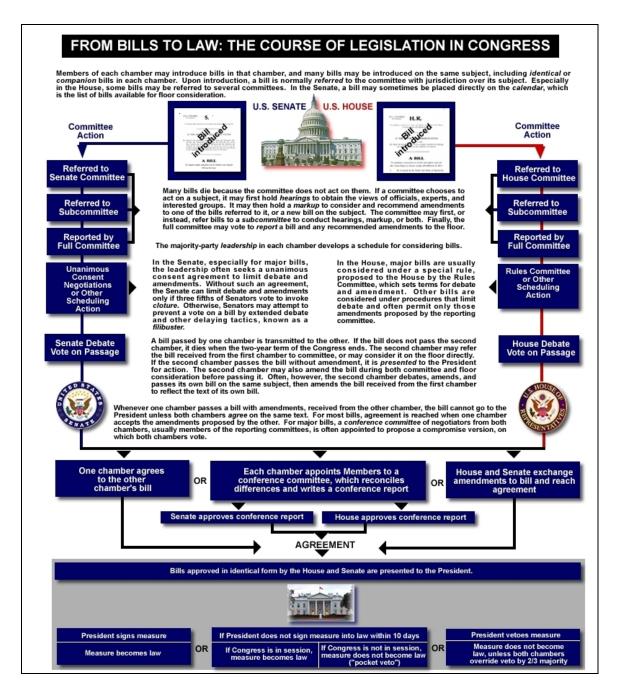
CRS Report RL34012, Resources for Grantseekers, by Merete F. Gerli

CRS Report RS20120, Legislative Support Resources: Offices and Websites for Congressional Staff, by Jennifer E. Manning and Michael Greene

CRS Report RS20991, Legislative Planning: Considerations for Congressional Staff, by Judy Schneider

CRS Report RS21363, Legislative Procedure in Congress: Basic Sources for Congressional Staff, by Jennifer E. Manning and Michael Greene

Figure A-1. The Course of Legislation in Congress



Source: Created by CRS. Image is available for copyright-free use here: http://www.crs.gov/products/images/HowBillBecomesLaw3.jpg

Note: See CRS Report R42843, Introduction to the Legislative Process in the U.S. Congress, by Valerie Heitshusen, for more information on legislative process.

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