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Provide users with a place to both start and continue their research

2021



ProQuest Congressional – Topic Pages

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25 topics at launch...more topics to be added on an ongoing basis
100 topics by end of 2021, with more to come...

These curated pages compiled by ProQuest Congressional editors provide users with a place to both start and continue their research. Each page includes a summary, background reports, viewpoints, useful information, news, and featured events, plus a link to search the product for additional content. PDFs will be provided for all content specifically cited on a page. Topics cover a wide variety of public policy issues in areas such as agriculture, defense, environment, energy, housing, health, international relations, transportation and more...

Access Topic Pages from Basic, Advanced, or Top Link

- Easy access to Topic Pages from any search form
- Prominently placed in results

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Congressional Publications

Enter keywords to search within all fields including full text

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Want to learn more? Here are some useful starting places.

Choose one of these Popular Topics or browse our **Topic Pages** to discover key concepts and policies.

COVID-19 Border Security Deferred Action for Childhood Arriv... Russian Interference in the 2016 El... Filibuster Hate Crimes Federal Student Loans

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Advanced Search: Congressional Publications

Enter search terms or [Browse Topics](#) to discover key concepts and policies to start your research.

Choose content types to search

Search All Content Types

Topic Pages [i](#)
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Hearings [i](#)
1970-Present

"equal rights amendment"

AND

Add a row +

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Search Term(s): "equal rights amendment" Modify search

"equal rights amendment"

133 Results View all 133 results Sort By Relevance

Select all 0 Selected item [Clear]

TOPIC PAGES (Editorially-created Topic pages give context, content and pathways into researching a topic.)

Equal Rights Amendment
Topic Page

The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is a proposed amendment to the U.S. Constitution designed to guarantee that "equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account..."

Scroll for more Content Types

Browse Topic Pages

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Topic Pages - A-Z

<p>TO AID DEPENDENT CHILDREN So that dependent children can grow up in</p> <p>Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)</p>	<p>Benghazi, Libya: U.S. Consulate Attack</p>	<p>Border Security</p>	<p>Campaign Finance Reform</p>	<p>COVID-19</p>	<p>Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)</p>	<p>Elder Abuse</p>	<p>Equal Rights Amendment</p>
<p>The Next Farm Bill Town Hall</p> <p>Farm Bill</p>	<p>Federal Student Loans</p>	<p>Filibuster</p>	<p>GameStop</p> <p>Financial Technology (Fintech)</p>	<p>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program</p> <p>Food Stamps and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program</p>	<p>Genetically Engineered Crops</p>	<p>Hate Crimes</p>	<p>Homelessness</p>
<p>Minimum Wage</p>	<p>Motor Vehicle Safety</p>	<p>PROTECT OUR RIGHTS ONLINE</p> <p>Net Neutrality</p>	<p>Russia Interference in U.S. 2016 Election</p>	<p>School Choice</p>	<p>Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)</p>	<p>Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)</p>	<p>U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)</p>

The Topic Page Browse is currently offered in a simple, alphabetically arranged display. As we add more pages, we will provide additional browse options

Topic Page: Begin Research Here!

- Begin research with a summary crafted by our editorial team
- Access source documents supporting summary
- Use top links to navigate to other sections of the page-- or scroll

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

[Email](#) [Print](#) [Permalink](#)

Add to selected items

Contents:

[Background Reports](#)
[Useful Information](#)

[Viewpoints](#)
[Featured Events](#)

[In the News](#)



Protesters at a DACA rally in San Francisco, 5 September 2017.

Image

In June of 2012, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued an administrative memorandum announcing the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Under DACA, persons who had made unauthorized entry to the U.S. as minor children could apply for a renewable two-year exemption from deportation, receive authorization to be legally employed, and be eligible for Federal benefits. Requirements for receipt of DACA status included five years of residence in the U.S., initial entry into the U.S. before the age of 16, and requirements for education achievement or military service.

Legislative efforts to address the issue of the status of persons in the "unauthorized child arrival" immigration category date to 2001. There have been several bills focused either specifically on granting legal permanent resident status to DACA recipients or broader immigration reform. To date, none of these bills have been enacted into law.

In September 2017, the DHS issued a memorandum ending the DACA program. Legal challenges to this decision led to review by the U.S. Supreme Court. The Court's ruling, issued in June 2020, held that the DHS decision to terminate DACA was judicially reviewable under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), and that the agency's termination of the program was "arbitrary and capricious" under the APA. This decision voided DHS effort to end DACA on procedural grounds but leaves the overall future of DACA and related programs open. As of July 28, 2020, DHS was only accepting applications for DACA renewals for existing recipients and rejecting all new requests for DACA and associated employment authorizations while it considered the future of DACA.

On January 20, 2021, President Biden issued a memorandum directing the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Attorney General to take action to "preserve and fortify" the DACA program.

Source: [Unauthorized Childhood Arrivals, DACA, and Related Legislation](#), June 30, 2020

[Recent White House Actions on Immigration](#), CRS Legal Sidebar, February 10, 2021

[Reconsideration of the June 15, 2012 Memorandum Entitled "Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children"](#), July 28, 2020

Using any Topic Page will offer perspectives on the types of primary sources available in ProQuest Congressional

Topic Page: Background Reports

BACKGROUND REPORTS (Reports providing background on legislation, research and analysis on the topic.)

U.S. Farm Programs: Eligibility and Payment Limits

CRS Report

Date: December 07, 2020

Discusses various eligibility factors and their interaction with current farm programs, including those authorized under the 2018 farm bill as well as...

Rural Development Provisions in the 2018 Farm Bill (P.L. 115-334)

CRS Report

Date: February 20, 2020

Provides overview of rural development (RD) provisions in P.L. 115-334, the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, also referred to as the 2018 farm bill,...

2018 Farm Bill Primer: Specialty Crops and Organic Agriculture, CRS In Focus

CRS Report

Date: September 23, 2019

Discusses selected provisions of 2018 farm bill that reauthorized and expanded existing programs and policies that support organic agricultural production...

The Farm Bill Energy Title: An Overview and Funding History

CRS Report

Date: July 21, 2020

Provides overview and funding summary of various energy titles contained in farm bill. Also provides description of 2018 farm bill...

2018 Farm Bill (P.L. 115-334) Primer Series: A Guide to Omnibus Farm and Food Legislation

CRS Report

Date: October 25, 2019

Summarizes series of CRS In Focus products on programs and policies in P.L. 115-334, the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, referred to as the 2018 farm...

2018 Farm Bill Primer: Support for Indian Tribes, CRS In Focus

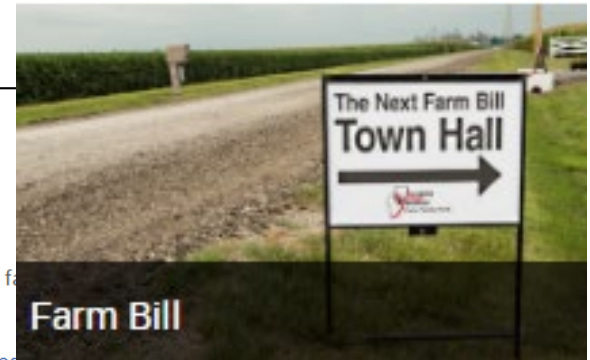
CRS Report

Date: August 12, 2019

Provides overview of selected provisions in 2018 farm bill that support production, economic development, and nutrition for Native American...

[Show More Background Reports](#) ▾

- Background reports offer a curated selection of reports that will help users get started with their research
- Many background reports are Congressional Research Service (CRS) reports, but other content types are alternatively provided as appropriate
- Many Topic Pages offer a “Show More Background Reports” option
- All users have access to all documents specifically cited on the Topic Page



U.S. Farm Programs: Eligibility and Payment Limits

Randy Schnepf
Specialist in Agricultural Policy

Megan Stubbs
Specialist in Agricultural Conservation and Natural Resources Policy

Updated December 7, 2020

Congressional Research Service
7-5700
www.crs.gov
R46248

CRS REPORT
Prepared for Members and
Committees of Congress

Topic Page: Viewpoints

VIEWPOINTS (Views on the topic documented in the oral and written testimony from witnesses during a

Congressional Hearing.)

[The Expansion and Troubling Use of ICE Detention Hearing](#)

Date: September 26, 2019

Hearing before the Subcom on Immigration and Citizenship to examine ICE detention recent concerns about alleged mistreatment...

[National Security: Threats at Our Borders Hearing](#)

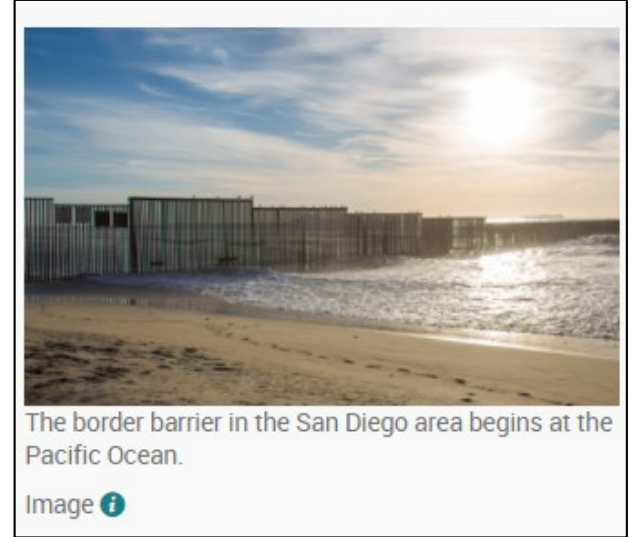
Date: March 23, 2016

Hearing before the Subcom on National Security and the Subcom on Government surrounding recent influx of foreign nationals...

TESTIMONY OF SELENE SAAVEDRA ROMAN

Ms. ROMAN. Good morning. Thank you for inviting me to testify at this important hearing today. My name is Selene Saavedra Roman, and I was detained for 38 days in an ICE detention center.

I was brought to the United States of America undocumented at the age of 4. I attended public school in my home State of Texas and graduated from Texas A&M with a bachelor's degree in allied health and a minor in communications. I am a former Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipient, which provided me a sense of relief from the looming fear of deportation. In 2017, I married my husband, David, who is a U.S. citizen and my petitioner for residency through an I-130, which was approved. The petition is the only first step of a lengthy journey to obtain residency, which we hoped would lead to my citizenship.



The border barrier in the San Diego area begins at the Pacific Ocean.

Image 

WITNESS PANEL:

#1

Date:

September 26, 2019

Collation:

p. 43-123, 210-216, 221, 236-238, 247-249

Witness:

SAAVEDRA-ROMAN, Selene - former ICE detainee

Witness:

DAVYDOV, Denis - former ICE detainee

Witness:

ENGOCHAN, Blanche O. - asylum seeker

Witness:

ALTMAN, Heidi - Director, Policy, National Immigration

Witness:

BARON, Jorge L. - Executive Director, Northwest

Witness:

SCHIKORE, Melanie - Executive Director, International

Witness:

HOMAN, Thomas D. - former Acting Director, ICE

Witness:

JENKINS, Charles A. - Sheriff, Frederick County, Md., Sheriff's Office

Statements And Discussion:

Negative experiences as detainees in ICE detention facilities. Criticisms of ICE immigration detention system expansion and policies. Concerns regarding Administration actions to allegedly undermine mechanisms for individuals to seek release from immigration detention system. Review and merits of community-based services to assist asylum seekers as alternative to detention. Refutation of criticisms of ICE detention system.

TESTIMONY OF CHARLES A. JENKINS

Sheriff JENKINS. Good morning. Mr. Chairman, Madam Chairwoman, ranking members and members, I want to offer my perspective from local law enforcement on the importance of ICE detention, honoring ICE detainers, local cooperation with ICE, and how that cooperation really enhances and improves local public safety. We're at a crisis point in this country. Congress needs to take serious measures right now in the enforcement of our immigration laws both at the border and on the interior. These two missions have overlapping serious impacts to public safety. One of the critical pieces is detention facilities.

The Viewpoints section of the topic page offers hearings which provide differing perspectives on the topic

Topic Pages: Useful Information

USEFUL INFORMATION (An overview of the topic highlighting the laws and other related legislation, agreements, predecessor/successor programs and the administering agency)

Law
The Food Stamp Act of 1964, to establish food stamp program.
Source document:
[Food Stamp Act of 1964: Public Law 88-525 \[88 H.R. 10222\]](#)
Public Law
Date: August 31, 1964
Public Law: 88 PL. 525; 78 Stat. 703; 88 Enacted H.R. 10222
To strengthen the agricultural economy; to help to achieve a fuller and more effective use of food abundances, to provide for improved levels of nutrition...

The Food and Agriculture Act of 1977, to amend the Food Stamp Act of 1964 to rename it the Food Stamp Act of 1977 and to revise food stamp program.
Source document:
[Food and Agriculture Act of 1977: Public Law 95-113 \[95 S. 275\]](#)
Public Law
Date: September 29, 1977
Public Law: 95 PL. 113; 91 Stat. 913; 95 Enacted S. 275
To provide price and income protection for farmers and assure consumers of an abundance of food and fiber at reasonable prices, and for other purposes.

Title IV of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, to amend the Food Stamp Act of 1977 to redesignate food stamp program as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.
Source document:
[Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008: Public Law 110-234 \[110 H.R. 2419\]](#)
Public Law
Date: May 22, 2008
Public Law: 110 PL. 234; 122 Stat. 923; 110 Enacted H.R. 2419
To provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.


Administrating Agency
Department of Agriculture, USDA Food and Nutrition Service
Source document:
[Domestic Food Assistance: Summary of Programs](#)
CRS Report
Date: March 22, 2018
Provides brief overview of hunger and food insecurity along with information on related network of programs administered by USDA Food and Nutrition Services...

Presidential Materials
[1962-21-5: Statement by the President on the food stamp program](#)
Executive Orders and Presidential Proclamations
Date: August 02, 1962

[1968-58-0552: Statement by the President Upon Signing the Bill Extending the Food Stamp Program for 3 Years.](#)
Executive Orders and Presidential Proclamations
Date: October 08, 1968


[1996-21-134: Memorandum on the Eligibility of Aliens for Food Stamps](#)
Executive Orders and Presidential Proclamations
Date: August 22, 1996

Most Recent Extension
The Further Consolidated Appropriations Act 2020, to extend emergency SNAP plans and benefits through FY2021.
Source document:
[\[Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act\]: Public Law 116-159 \[116 H.R. 8337\]](#)
Public Law
Date: October 01, 2020
Public Law: 116 PL. 159; 134 Stat. 709; 116 Enacted H.R. 8337
Making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes.



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

SNAP provides benefits to low-income, eligible households on an electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card which allows benefits to be exchanged for foods at authorized retailers.

Image 

Useful information includes topic-specific appropriate items such as related laws, administering agency, last reauthorization, and Presidential materials—all with links to full text

Topic Pages: News

IN THE NEWS

Among homeless, deaths rise

News Source

Date: December 31, 2020

View More



The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness required by HUD.

Image [i](#)

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Search: ("Homelessness") or (Homeless)

34,520 Results [Sort By Relevance](#)

Select 1 - 20 0 Selected item [\[Clear\]](#)

Date

Date Congress

Start MM/DD/YYYY End MM/DD/YYYY [Update](#)

Content Type [i](#)

News 34,520 [More options...](#)

Document Type

- News Source (34,520)
 - Washington Post (32,322)
 - Press Release (882)
 - News Event (674)
 - Roll Call Newspaper (270)
 - News Briefing (163)

1 The Unsheltered in a Storm; N.Y.'s Crackdown on Homeless: 'Wise Policy' or 'Kafkaesque'?
News Source: Washington Post
Section: A SECTION Length: 1441 words
Author: Lynne Duke [Full text](#) [Permalink](#)

2 Exasperated Cities Move to Curb or Expel The Homeless
News Source: Washington Post
Section: A SECTION Length: 1518 words
Author: Rene Sanchez [Full text](#) [Permalink](#)

3 The Homeless Crisis Is Over! Somebody tell the homeless.
News Source: Washington Post
Section: OPINION/EDITORIAL Length: 788 words
Author: William Raspberry [Full text](#) [Permalink](#)

Topic Pages include a single curated item sourced from the ProQuest Congressional news search, plus a “View More” link to run a full search

Topic Pages: Featured Events

FEATURED EVENTS

2018
 On August 31, President Trump publishes notification of his intent to enter into a trade agreement with Mexico and Canada.
 Further Reading
[Notice of Intention to Enter Into A Trade Agreement, Executive Orders and Presidential Proclamations](#)


2019
 On December 10, USMCA parties agree to a Protocol of Amendment to USMCA.
 Further Reading
[Legislation and Documents To Implement the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, Message from the President of the United States](#)
[Transmittal, in accordance with the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015, of legislation and supporting](#)

2019
 On December 19, the House passes H.R. 5430, to implement USMCA by a vote of 385-41.
 Further Reading
[2019 House Roll No. 701, Vote Report](#)
[The House passed H.R. 5430, United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act.](#)


2020
 On January 16, the Senate passes H.R. 5430 by a vote of 78-21.
 Further Reading
[2020 Senate Roll No. 13, Vote Report](#)
[The Senate agreed to the motion to waive all applicable sections of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and applicable budget resolutions](#)
[United...](#)

2020
 On January 29, President Trump signs the USMCA.
 Further Reading
[UNITED STATES-MEXICO-CANADA AGREEMENT, Congressional Record Daily Edition](#)

2020
 USMCA enters into force on July 1, 2020.
 Further Reading
[USMCA GOES INTO EFFECT TODAY, Congressional Record Daily Edition](#)



Under the leadership of President Trump, the United States renegotiated the North American Free Trade Agreement, replacing it with an updated and rebalanced agreement, the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which entered into force on July 1, 2020.

Image 

45191

Federal Register
 Vol. 83, No. 172
 Wednesday, September 5, 2018


Title 3—
The President

Presidential Documents

Notice of August 31, 2018
Notice of Intention To Enter Into a Trade Agreement

Consistent with section 106(a)(1)(A) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–26, Title I) (the “Act”), I have notified the Congress of my intention to enter into a trade agreement with Mexico—and with Canada if it is willing, in a timely manner, to meet the high standards for free, fair, and reciprocal trade contained therein.

Consistent with section 106(a)(1)(A) of the Act, this notice shall be published in the *Federal Register*.



THE WHITE HOUSE,
 August 31, 2018.

[FR Doc. 2018–19411
 Filed 9–4–18; 11:15 am]
 Billing code 3295–F8–P

Featured events includes links to documents associated with each event

Use Topic Pages in Conjunction with Congress in Context

Click on Congress in Context link from Topic Page to retrieve information on the partisan make-up of Congress at a specific time, economic conditions, major acts and Supreme Court decisions, events, and more

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Browse Topics

Benghazi, Libya: U.S. Consulate Attack

Contents: Background Reports Useful Information

In the evening of September 11, 2011, U.S. Ambassador Christopher J. Stevens was killed in the attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya. Other U.S. personnel were also killed by enemy forces. Initial response to the attack on CIA-developed talk shows produced in the U.S. Sentiments to the groups al-Q

U.S. Ambassador Christopher J. Stevens was killed in the attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi

One Hundred and Twelfth Congress

Jan. 5, 2011-Jan. 3, 2013

First Administration of Barack H. Obama

Historical Background.....1
 War or Peace?.....5
 Economic Trends and Conditions.....7
 Landmark U.S. Supreme Court Decisions.....8
 2011 Events.....9
 2012 Events.....11
 Major Acts.....13

Historical Background

On January 25, 2011 as President Barack H. Obama delivered his State of the Union Address, one member of the House, Arizona Rep. Gabby Giffords, lay in the hospital gravely wounded after having been shot in the head during an unsuccessful assassination attempt only days before. The incident unfolded on January 8, 2011, as Representative Giffords convened a town-hall style constituent event at a strip mall in Tucson, Arizona. Shortly after 10:00 am, Jared Lee Loughner, a 22-year old college dropout with a history of behavioral and mental health difficulties, approached Giffords and abruptly shot her in the head before turning his weapon on others who had gathered for the event. Though the investigation into the assassination attempt would reveal that Loughner had expressed some, generic anti-government sentiments in the past, he did not seem to subscribe to any coherent ideology.

Even so, the incident drew attention to the increasingly virulent partisan atmosphere around the country. The political messaging employed by some on the political right during the 2010 midterm election cycle came in for particular scrutiny, including a midterm election map used on the website of former Republican governor of Alaska Sarah Palin, which included gunsight crosshairs on Congressional districts, such as that of Representative Giffords, targeted for Republican victory. Representative Giffords herself, responding to interview questions during the campaign, warned of the risks of such tactics: "We're in the crosshairs of a gun sight over our district. When people do that, they've got to realize that there are consequences to that action." As the nation confronted this assault on the democratic process itself, policymakers from both parties proposed policy measures aimed at forestalling future events of this sort. These ranged from stronger gun control laws including a ban on high-capacity magazines, and a ban on gun ownership by any individual rejected from military service due to drug use,

President Barack H. Obama

House	Senate
Majority Party: Republican (241 seats)	Majority Party: Democrat (51 seats)
Minority Party: Democrat (192 seats)	Minority Party: Republican (47 seats)
Other Parties 0	Other Parties 1
Note: 2	Independent: 1
Vacancies	Independent Democrat
Speaker of the	Majority Leader:

- **May 9:** President Obama officially states his support for same sex marriage
- **May 25:** 116 people are massacred by the Syrian Army in Houla
- **June 18:** [China becomes the third nation, after the United States and Russia, to dock a space craft with an orbiting object when its Shenzhou 9 spacecraft docked with the Tiangong-1 orbiter](#)
- **June 30:** [Muslim Brotherhood member Mohamed Morsi is elected President of Egypt, sparking a new round of protests and unrest in the country](#)
- **July 20:** James Holmes opens fire in a crowded cinema in Aurora, Colorado, killing 12 and injuring a further 58
- **Sept. 11-12:** [A coordinated attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya results in the death of Ambassador John Christopher Stevens](#)
- **Nov. 6:** Barack H. Obama is reelected to a second term as President of the United States

Topic Pages: Continue Researching

Find more sources for 'Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)'

The screenshot shows the ProQuest Congressional search interface. The search query is "Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and pd(>=19930101)". The results show 4,034 results. On the left, there are filters for Date, Content Type, and Document Type. The Content Type filter shows the following counts:

Content Type	Count
Topic Pages	1
Hearings	184
CRS Reports	364
House and Senate Documents/Reports	327
Legislative Histories	11
Bills and Laws	1,569
Miscellaneous Publications	391
Vote Reports	6
Congressional Record	1,181

The Document Type filter shows the following counts:

Document Type	Count
Bills (1,525)	
Bill Text (789)	
Bill Profile (736)	
Congressional Record Daily Edition (1,181)	

The main results area shows a "TOPIC PAGES" section with a link to "Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Topic Page". The description states: "The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant program, established under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, provides Federal grants to States, D.C.,..."

- Click on Find More Sources to launch a pre-crafted search retrieving content to which a user is otherwise entitled
- Or click on a related topic link to access another Topic Page

The screenshot shows the "RELATED TOPICS" section. It features three main items:

- TO AID DEPENDENT CHILDREN**: So that dependent children can grow up in Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**: Food Stamps and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program**



Contact

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