



GPO, Government Documents, and Kentucky Librarians: Working Together



Outline

- The Government Publishing Office (GPO) and the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP)
- Government information and resources (legislative, executive, and judicial branches) and how to access them
- **govinfo.gov**



What is GPO?

- The U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) is a Federal agency within the legislative branch. GPO was established in 1861 as the Government Printing Office and changed its name in 2014.
 - The Federal Government’s official, digital, secure resource for producing, procuring, cataloging, indexing, authenticating, disseminating, and preserving the official information products of the U.S. Government (or *Keeping America Informed*)
 - GPO has about 1700 employees
 - www.gpo.gov



GPO Then and Now



Check out the GPO History webpage: <http://www.gpo.gov/about/gpohistory/>

Watch the video “Our Rich History”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vRFACKDd9d0>

Watch a webinar on publishing the Congressional Record: <http://bit.ly/1SCjG6M>

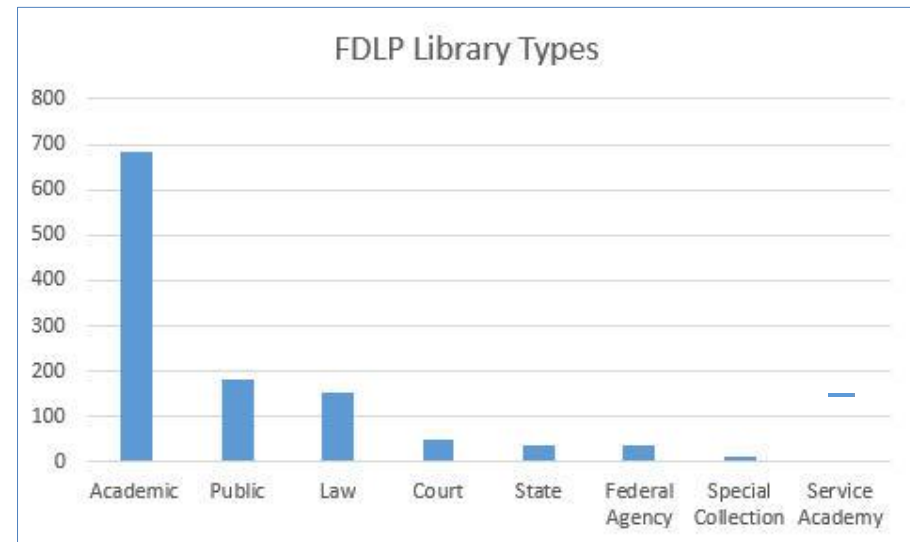
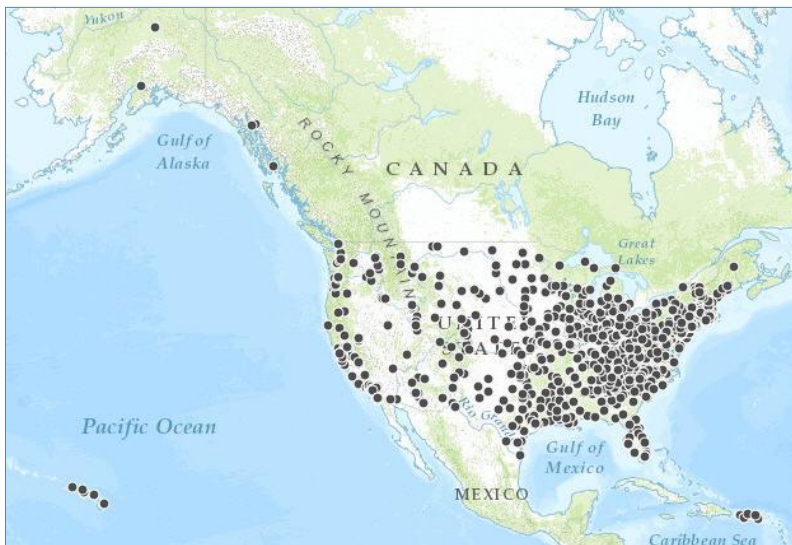


What is the Federal Depository Library Program?

- The FDLP was established by Congress to ensure that the American public has access to its Government's information.
- Government information has been sent to libraries since 1812; formerly the program was run by the Secretary of State and the Department of the Interior
- Since 1895, the FDLP has been administered by the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO)
- Authority for FDLP: 44 United States Code § 1901-1916
 - <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/content/pkg/USCODE-2014-title44/pdf/USCODE-2014-title44-chap19.pdf>

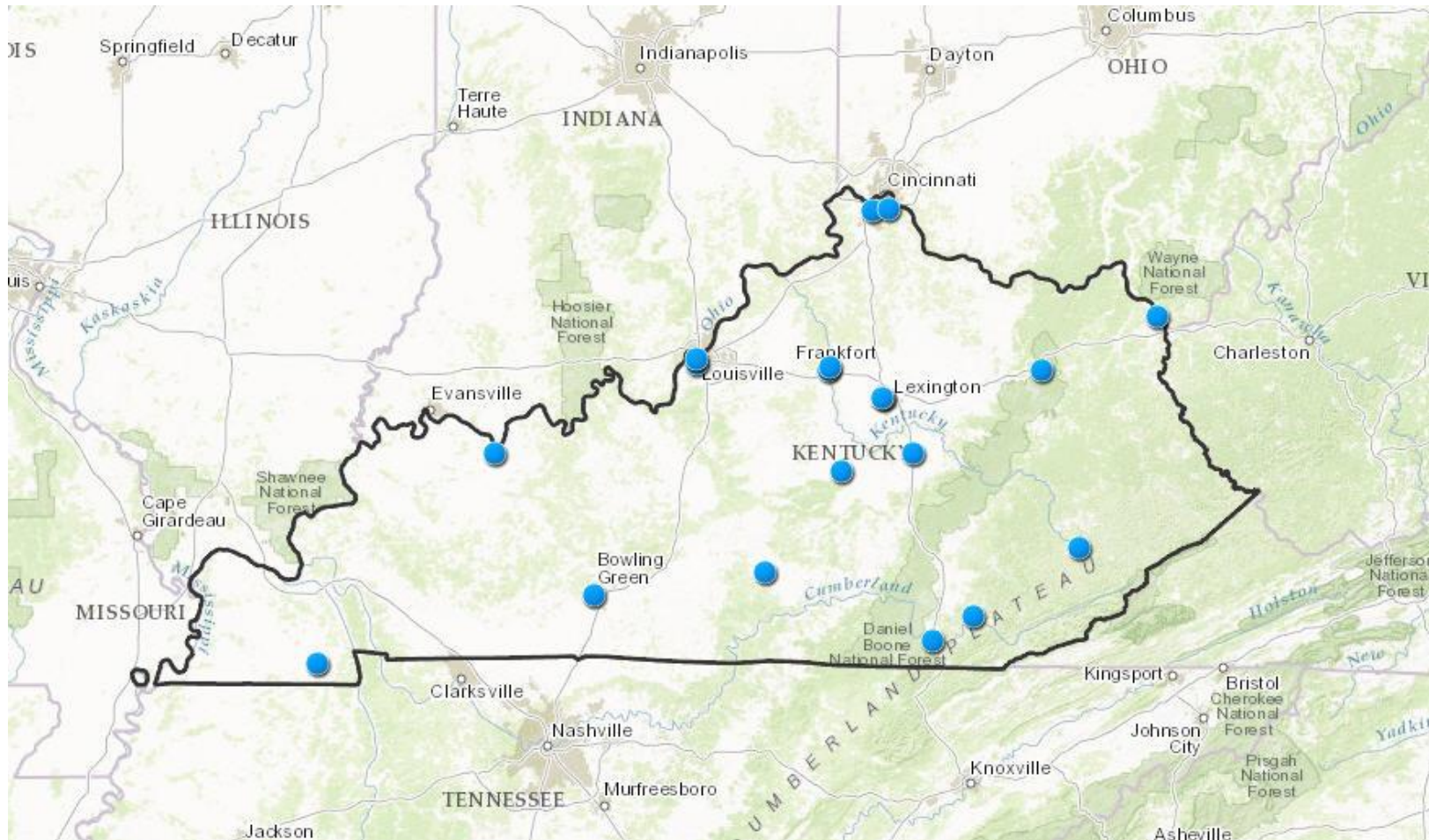
Who is in the FDLP?

- Over 1,100 libraries of all types, located throughout the U.S.A. and its territories, are members of the FDLP



<http://arcg.is/1mmp9Ep>

Kentucky FDLP Libraries





U.S. Government Information

- What it is
- Legislative, Executive, Judicial Branch publications
- Tips, strategies, hints



What is government information?

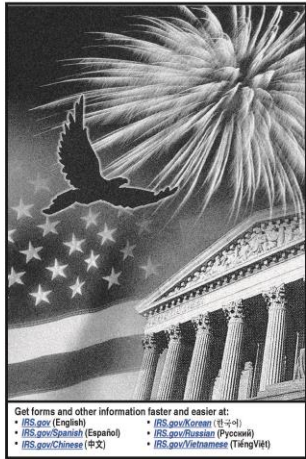
- Produced by the Federal Government – “informational matter which is published as an individual document at government expense, or as required by law.” (1962 Federal Depository Library Act)
- Representing all branches of Government and independent agencies
- In all formats, for all ages, in multiple languages
- Primary source material - authoritative from issuing agency
- Legal, regulatory, and statistical but also subjects from A-Z



Publication 15
Cat. No. 1000W

(Circular E), Employer's Tax Guide

For use in **2016**



Get forms and other information faster and easier at:
 • IRS.gov (English) • IRS.gov/Korean (한글)
 • IRS.gov/Spanish (Español) • IRS.gov/Russian (Русский)
 • IRS.gov/Chinese (中文) • IRS.gov/Vietnamese (Tiếng Việt)

Dec 23, 2015

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Future Developments

For the latest information about developments related to Pub. 15, such as legislation enacted after it was published, go to www.irs.gov/pub15.


What's New

Social security and Medicare tax for 2016. The social security tax rate is 6.2% each for the employee and employer, unchanged from 2015. The social security wage base limit is \$118,500, unchanged from 2015.

[H.L.A.S.C. No. 114-691]

**ACQUISITION EFFICIENCY AND THE
FUTURE NAVY FORCE**

HEARING
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER AND
PROJECTION FORCES
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION
HEARING HELD
DECEMBER 1, 2015



U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 2016

97-426

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Publishing Office
 Internet: bookstore.gpo.gov Phone: toll free (866) 512-1800; EMU 2025 512-1806
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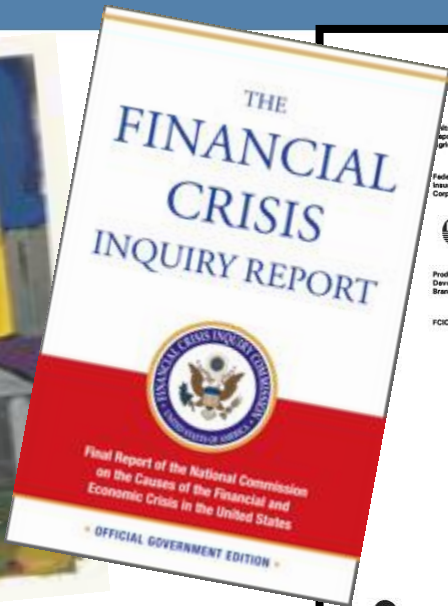


FEDERAL REGISTER

Vol. 81 Friday,
No. 73 April 15, 2016

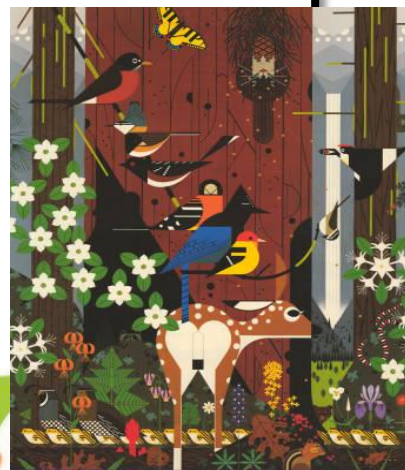
Pages 22173-22510

OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL REGISTER



United States Department of Agriculture
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation
FCIC
Product Development Branch
FCIC 30390

POPCORN HANDBOOK



The Sierra Range

FDA Consumer Health Information
www.fda.gov/consumer

Magic Power Coffee: POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS Not Magical



Consumers should not use an instant coffee being sold online as a dietary supplement for sexual enhancement, warns the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

- The product, Magic Power Coffee, contains a potentially dangerous ingredient. The product is sold in a two-serving box as well as in a carton that contains six two-serving boxes. FDA's lab analysis determined that Magic Power Coffee contains a chemical similar to the active ingredient in the prescription drug Viagra to treat erectile dysfunction. The chemical may cause a health restriction device.
- blood pressure. Although Magic Power Coffee is labeled as an "all natural dietary supplement," it can cause serious harm. Sexual enhancement products that claim to work as well as prescription products are likely to expose consumers to unpredictable risks and the potential for injury or even death.
- Advice for Consumers
1. If you have experienced any bad side effects from Magic Power Coffee or any sexual enhancement products, talk to a health care professional.
 2. Report any side effects with the use of any sexual enhancement products to FDA's MedWatch Adverse Event Reporting Program either online, by regular mail, or...

STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT NAIL-GUN SAFETY

CDC
Workplace Safety and Health

NOSH

Who Speaks for the Trees?

Students read (or watch) Dr. Seuss' *The Lorax* and examine the importance of the sustainable management of natural resources.

Copyright 2012, American Forest Foundation. This activity was registered with permission from Project Learning Tree's *Third & Environmental Education Activity Guide* © 2012 Universal Studios. "Dr. Seuss' *The Lorax*" and Dr. Seuss Characters © and "Dr. Seuss Enterprises, L.P."

Objective

- Students will discuss and analyze a fictional story related to natural resources.
- Students will determine whether the main ideas of the story build a case for the conservation and wise use of natural resources.

Assessment Opportunities

- Students' discussion question answers can be used to assess students' understanding of the environmental messages.
- Ask students to create a graphic organizer showing the main ideas presented.

Background

A quick look around the home or school reveals how many items are made from wood and other forest resources. Trees are important to us whether they are used for products or left in their natural environment where they provide oxygen, soil protection, beauty, and a habitat for plants and animals.

Statistical Abstract of the United States: 2012

Levels
Part A: Grades 2-8
Variations: Grades 4
Part B: Grades 6-8

Subjects
Science, Social Studies, Language Arts

Concepts

- Our increasing influence on the Earth's environment has influenced forest management.
- Increased public environmental conservation have resulted in many cultural...

Best of Both Worlds

Museums, Libraries, and Archives in a Digital Age

By C. Wayne Clough, Secretary

Smithsonian Institution



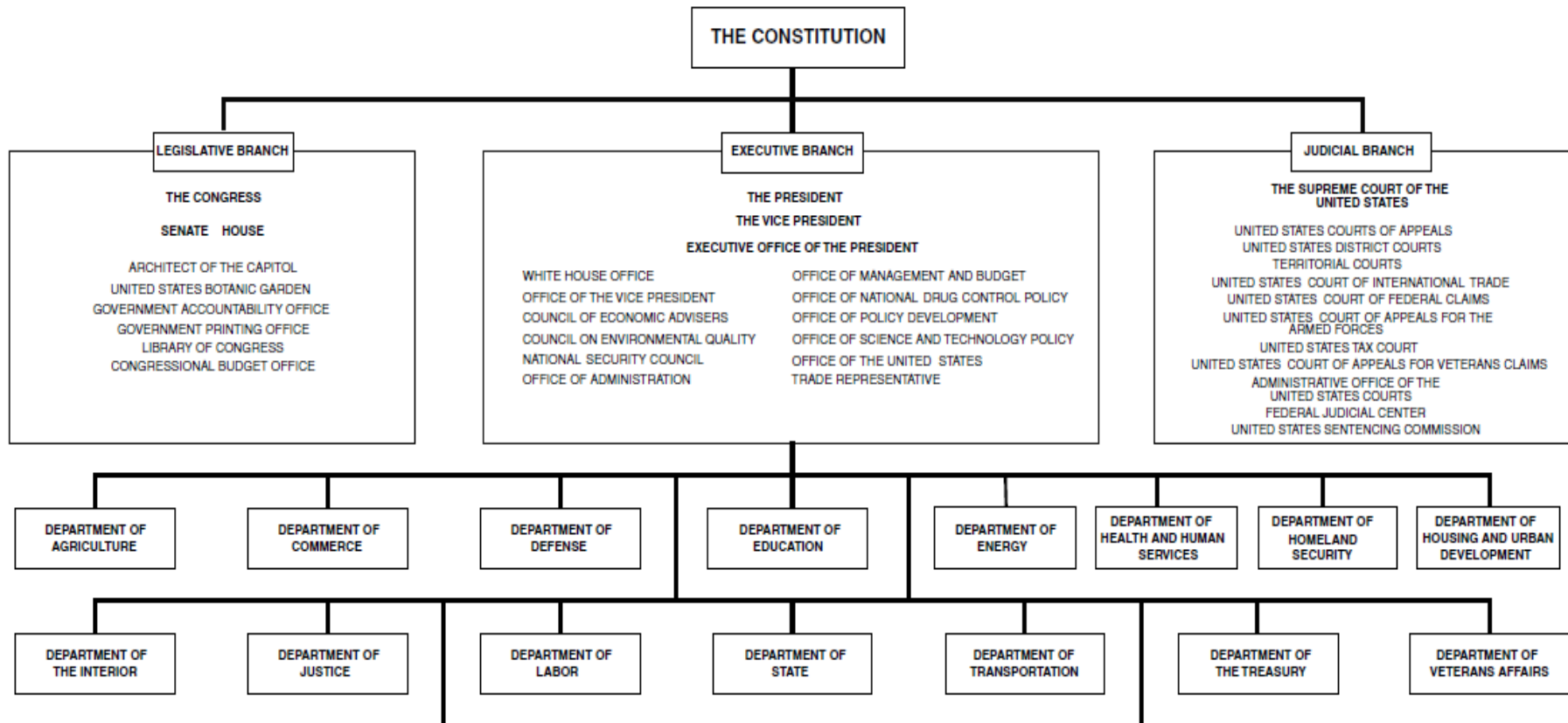
But wait, there's more

- Can be housed anywhere in a library, including by the Superintendent of Documents classification (by provenance)
 - Library government publication collections often include publications produced by the Government but also finding tools and other resources about the Government
- Very helpful to know the structure of Government when researching government information

Branches of U.S. Government

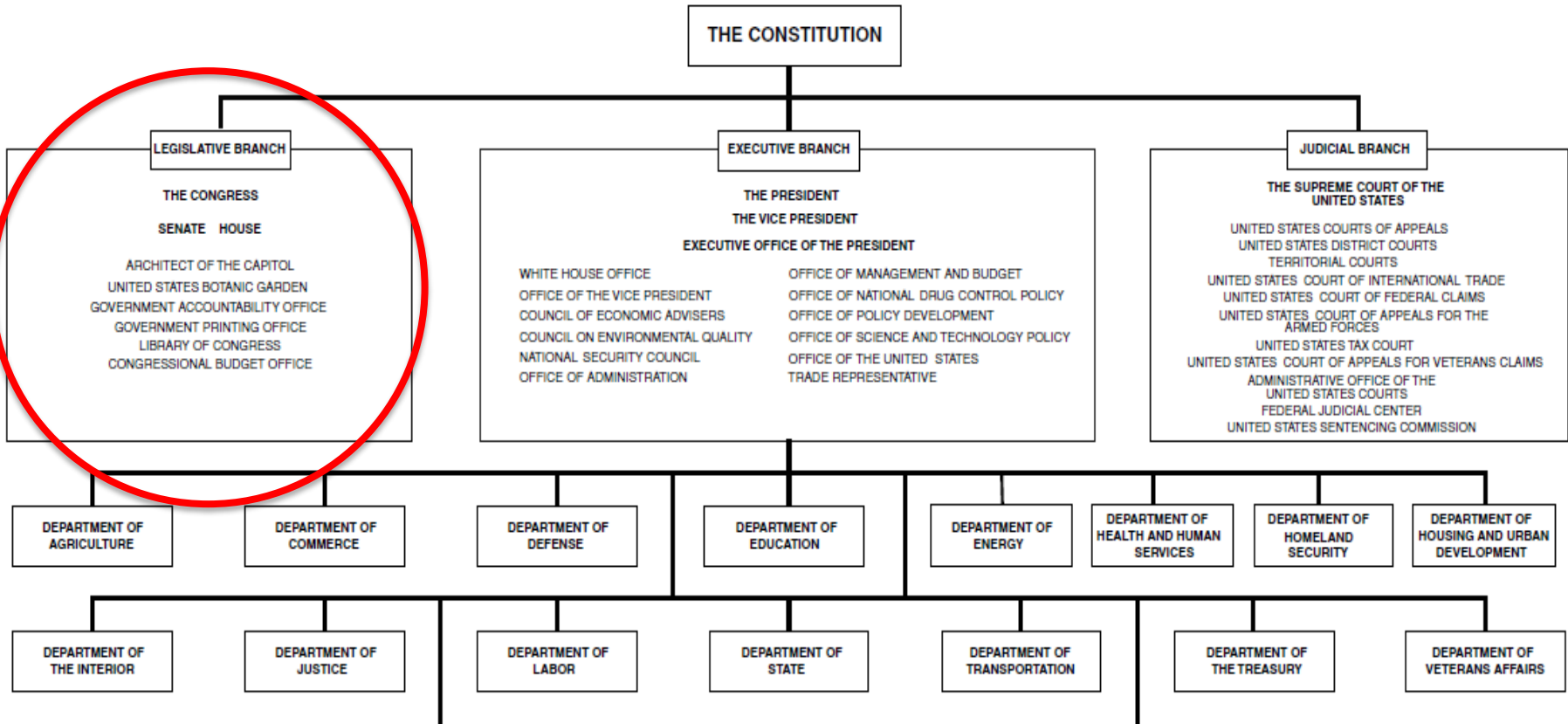
(2015 U.S. Government Manual)

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES



Legislative Branch

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES



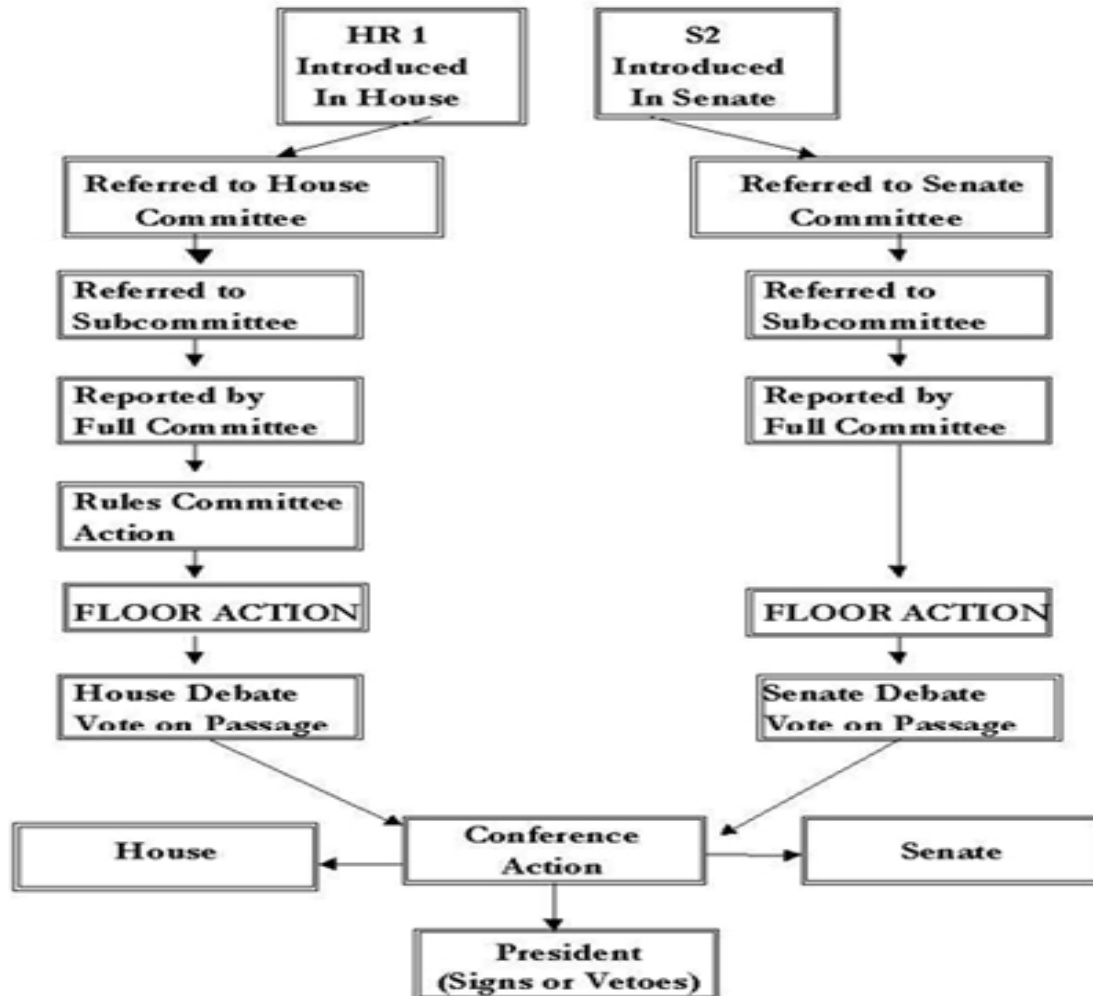


Legislative Branch

Article I, Section 1 of the *United States Constitution* states:

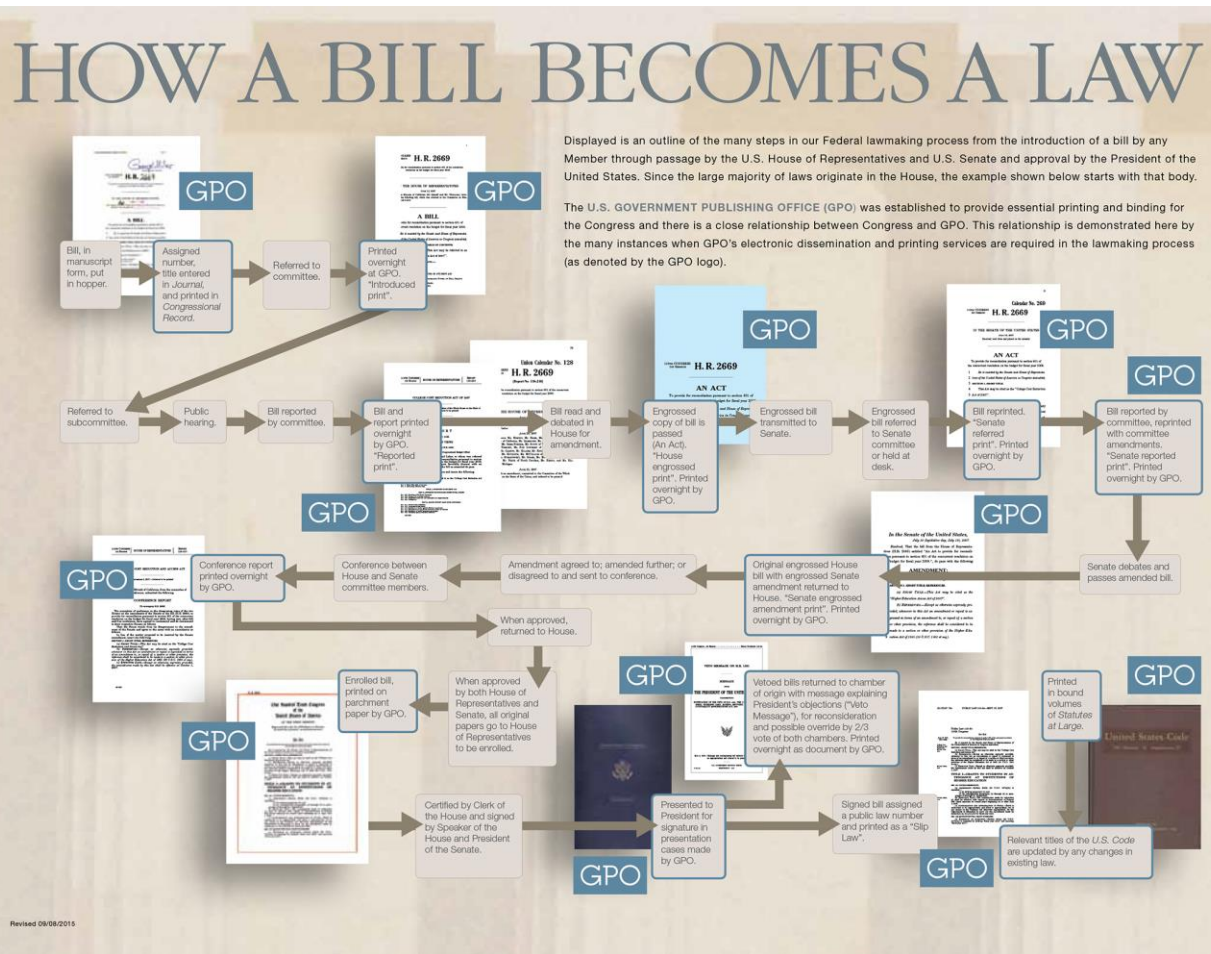
- “All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.” (House Document 110-49 *How Our Laws are Made*)
- The legislative branch declares war, regulates interstate and foreign commerce, controls taxing and spending policies, **and chief among all functions, makes laws.**

Legislative process





Legislative process





Major legislative publications

- *Bill* - legislative proposals from the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate.
 - Citation examples: 110 H.R. 1234 and 114 S. 1
- *Calendar* - includes the *Calendars of the U.S. House of Representatives and History of Legislation* and the *Senate Calendar of Business*.
- *Print* – issued by Congressional Committees that include topics related to their legislative or research activities, as well as other matters such as memorial tributes. (S. Prt. 1)



Major legislative publications

- *Hearing* - a meeting or session of a Senate, House, joint, or special committee of Congress, usually open to the public, to obtain information and opinions on proposed legislation, conduct an investigation, or evaluate/oversee the activities of a government department or the implementation of a Federal law.
- *Report* - originates from congressional committees and cover proposed legislation and issues under investigation. (S. Rept. 100-49)
- *Document* - includes reports of executive departments and agencies, as well as committee prints, that were ordered to be printed as documents. (S. Doc. 110-10)



Major legislative publications


- *Congressional Record* - official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress.
 - Daily: 153 Cong. Rec. E1040
 - Bound: 153 Cong. Rec. (Bound) 1040
- *U.S. Statutes at Large* - permanent collection of all laws and resolutions enacted during each session of Congress. (117 STAT. 1952)
- *U.S. Code* - codification by subject matter of the general and permanent laws of the United States, divided by broad subjects into 53 titles. (44 U.S.C. 19 § 1905)



Major legislative publications

- *U.S. Congressional Serial Set*
 - Commonly referred to as the Serial Set, contains the House and Senate Documents and the House and Senate Reports bound by session of Congress.
 - In general, it includes: committee reports related to bills and other matters, presidential communications to Congress, treaty materials, certain executive department publications, and selected non-governmental publications.
 - Started with the 15th Congress, 1st Session (1817). Documents before 1817 may be found in the *American State Papers*.


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Date

Browse documents within a timeframe or date range


Committee

Browse documents by the issuing committee


Author


Browse documents by government authors

[Coming Soon](#)

Recent Publications

- Compilation of Presidential Documents**
Most Recent Presidential Materials
- Congressional Record**
Daily Digest for the most recent Congressional Record

Features

-  **April 2016 Release**
[Release Notes](#) April 11, 2016 - New Features and Enhancements are Now Available
- House Manual in Bulk XML**



Congress.gov

Find bill status and more

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Current Legislation Examples: hr5, sres9, "health care"

Most-Viewed Bills | [Top 10](#)

[H.R. 2029](#) [114th] Consolidated Appropriations Act 2016
[H.Res. 642](#) [114th] Recognizing magic as a rare and valuable art form and national treasure
[H.R. 1314](#) [114th] Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015


Bill Searches and Lists

[Search by Number](#)
[Introduced](#) [114th] | [Active Legislation](#) (Senate.gov)
[Public Laws](#) | [U.S. Code](#)
[Appropriations](#)

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Current Legislative Activities
114th Congress (2015-2016)

House of Representatives


 **Not in Session**
Video Archive

Next Meeting: April 13, 2016
Previous Meeting: April 12, 2016

House Links

- [House Floor Activities](#)
- [House Calendars](#)
- [Roll Call Votes](#)
- [Committee Hearings Video](#)
- [Committee Hearings Schedule](#)

Senate


 **Not in Session**
Video Archive

Next Meeting: April 13, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.
Previous Meeting: April 12, 2016

Senate Links

- [On the Senate Floor](#)
- [Senate Calendar of Business](#)
- [Executive Calendar](#) (PDF, 357KB)
- [Roll Call Votes](#)
- [Committee Hearings Schedule](#)
- [Nominations](#)
- [Treaty Documents](#)
- [Executive Communications](#)


The Legislative Process



[JPG \(179 KB\)](#) | [PDF \(503 KB\)](#)
En Español: [JPG](#) | [PDF](#)

Nine videos explain each of the common legislative stages, and that the process by which a bill becomes law is rarely predictable.

The Congressional Record



Read the [latest legislative activity](#).
Get the app for: [iPhone](#) or [iPad](#).

News and Programs

- [Congress.gov Spring Cleaning: Expanded Quick Search](#)
- [Law Library of Congress Resources: United States Supreme Court Nominations](#)
- [New End of Year Congress.gov Enhancements: Quick Search, Congressional Record Index, and More](#)

The U.S. Founding Documents

[A gallery of study resources](#) about significant primary source documents from American history.

About Congress.gov

Presented by the Library of Congress, Congress.gov is the official website for U.S. federal legislative information.

[More about Congress.gov](#)

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UNITED STATES HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

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114th Congress, 2nd Session - The House is not in session

REPRESENTATIVES | LEADERSHIP | COMMITTEES | LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY | THE HOUSE EXPLAINED



Legislative Activity

Schedule | Floor Proceedings | Votes | Bills & Reports

Upcoming Events
[Watch Most Recent House Floor Activity](#)

Time (EST)	Session
4/12 2:30 pm	Hearing: A Presentation by National 4-H Conference Participants Concerning the Future of Agriculture in the United States <i>Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research</i>
4/12 5:00 pm	Business Meeting: H.R. 2686 No Rate Regulation of Broadband Internet Access Act, H.R. 3340 Financial Stability Oversight Council Reform Act, H.R. 3791 To raise the consolidated assets threshold under the small bank holding company policy statement and for other purposes. <i>Committee on Rules</i>

13th Amendment Celebration
150th Anniversary of Ratification

Watch HouseLive | Find Your Representative | 13th Amendment Celebration | Honoring the Foot Soldiers

House Overview

Representatives
Elected to a two-year term, each representative serves the people of a specific congressional district by introducing bills and serving on committees, among other duties.

Leadership

Public Disclosure

Financial Disclosure Reports
Information about the source, type, amount, or value of the incomes of representatives, officers, and candidates.

UNITED STATES SENATE

SENATORS | COMMITTEES | LEGISLATION & RECORDS | ART & HISTORY | VISITORS | REFERENCE

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This Week in Senate History
April 9, 1867
On April 9, 1867, the Senate approved one of the great real estate bargains in history by agreeing to the Alaska purchase treaty. [More](#)

Established by the Constitution as one chamber of the federal government's legislative branch, the United States Senate is comprised of one hundred members—two senators from each of the 50 states—who serve six-year, overlapping terms. Senators, along with members of the House of Representatives, propose, author, and vote on federal legislation that touches upon all aspects of U.S. domestic and foreign policy. Senators provide advice and consent on executive nominations and treaties and conduct oversight of all branches of the federal government.



Postcard circa 1880. U.S. Senate Historical Office.

Administrations come and go, Houses assemble and disperse, Senators change, but the Senate is always there in the Capitol, and always organized, with an existence unbroken since 1789.
Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, "The Senate," 1903

FLOOR WEBCAST

2016 SESSION SCHEDULE

SCHEDULED HEARINGS

ACTIVE LEGISLATION

VOTES

Floor Schedule

Monday, Apr 11, 2016
3:00 p.m.: Convene and begin a period of morning business.

Thereafter, resume consideration of [H.R. 636](#), the legislative vehicle for FAA reauthorization.

Previous Meeting
Thursday, Apr 07, 2016
The Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 5:05 p.m. 3 [record votes](#) were taken.

[Daily Digest](#) (latest issue)

[Senate Calendar](#) (latest issue)

[Executive Calendar](#) (latest issue, PDF format)

Floor Activity
View the previous legislative day's [Floor Activity](#).



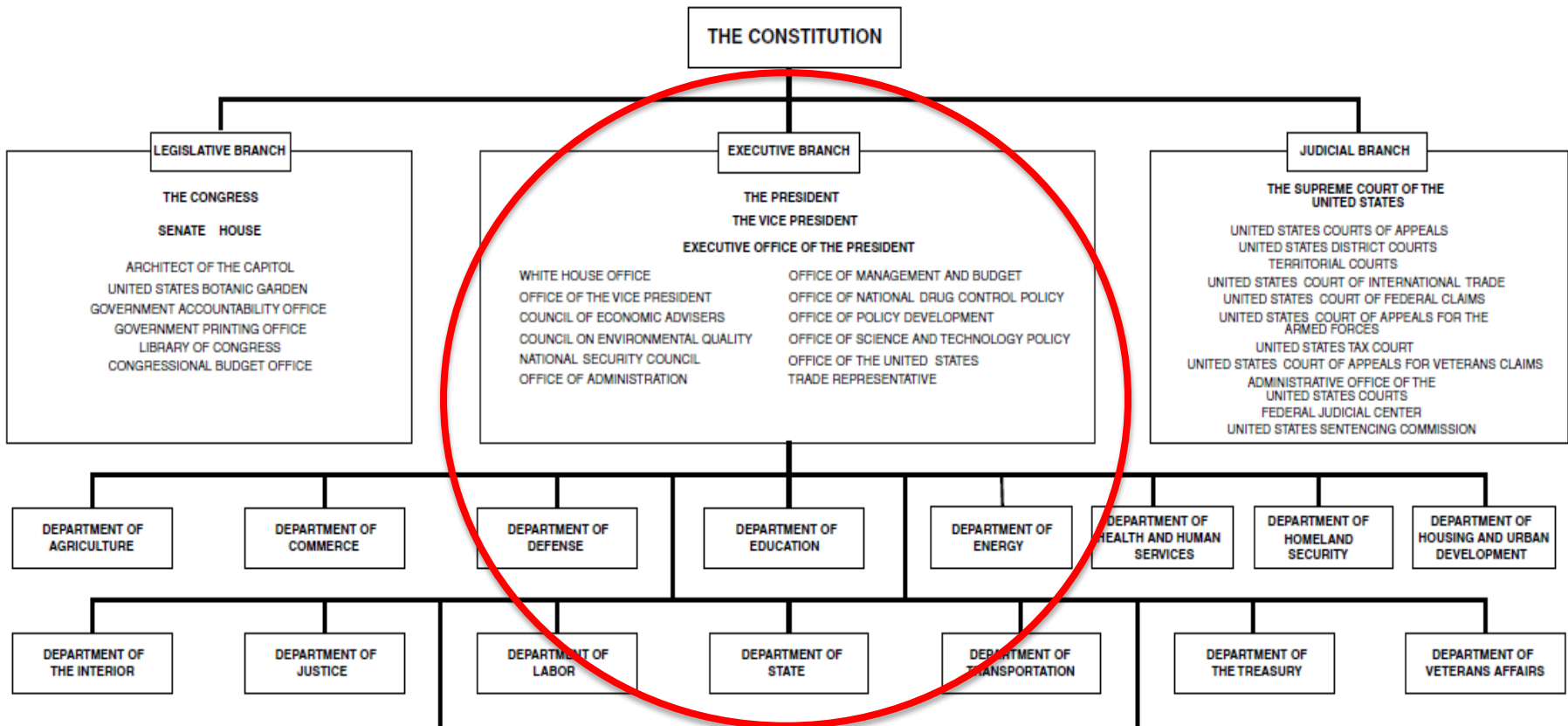
Legislative Histories

Comprises the documents generated during the legislative process, recording legislative intent.

- **Numerous** sources are available
- Selected, compiled by Law Librarians' Society of Washington DC: <http://www.lisdc.org/legislative-histories>
- Govinfo has expanded related publication linking
Example: “Details” in Public and Private Laws

Executive Branch

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES











Executive Branch Documents

- U.S. Government Manual
- Presidential Documents
- Regulatory publications
- Federal agency publications
- Statistical publications
- Good portals – USA.gov, Benefits.gov

U.S. Government Manual

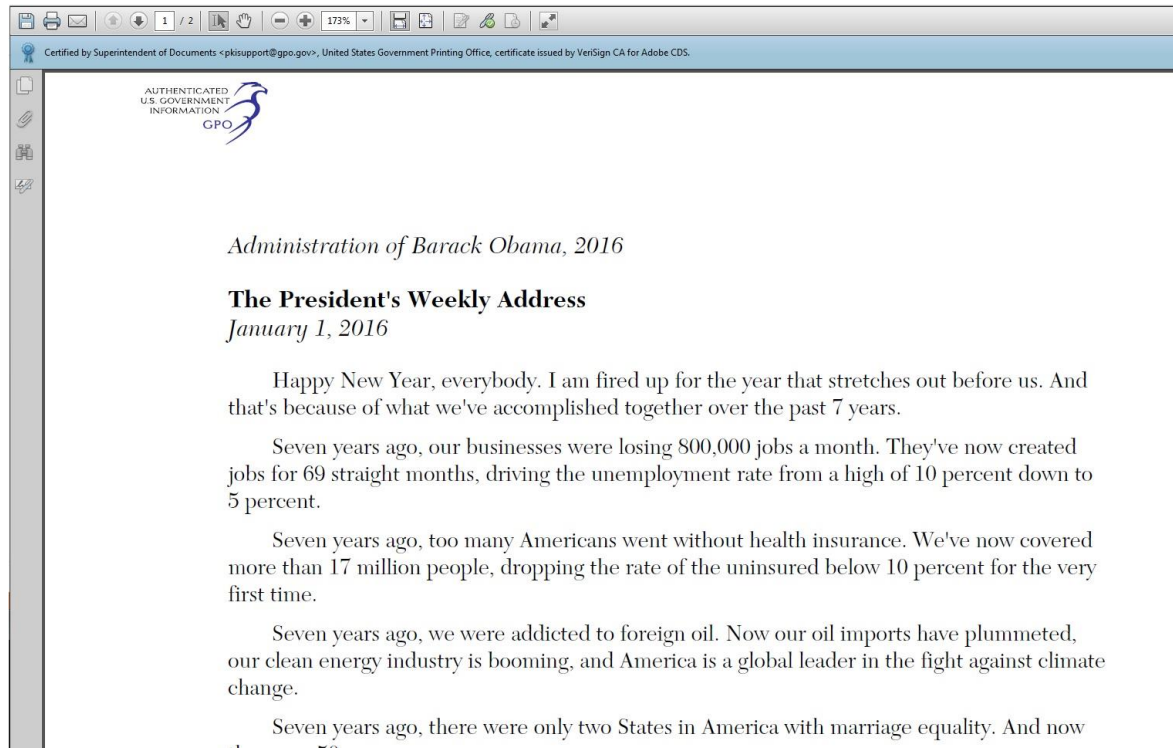
-  2015 Edition (July) Edition
-  2014 Edition (October) Edition
-  2013 Edition (November) Edition
-  2012 Edition (December) Edition
-  2011 Edition (October) Edition
-  2009-2010 Edition

Govinfo.gov:

<https://govinfo.gov/app/browse/#browse/collection?collectionCode=GOVMAN&browsePath=>

Presidential Documents

Compilation of Presidential Documents

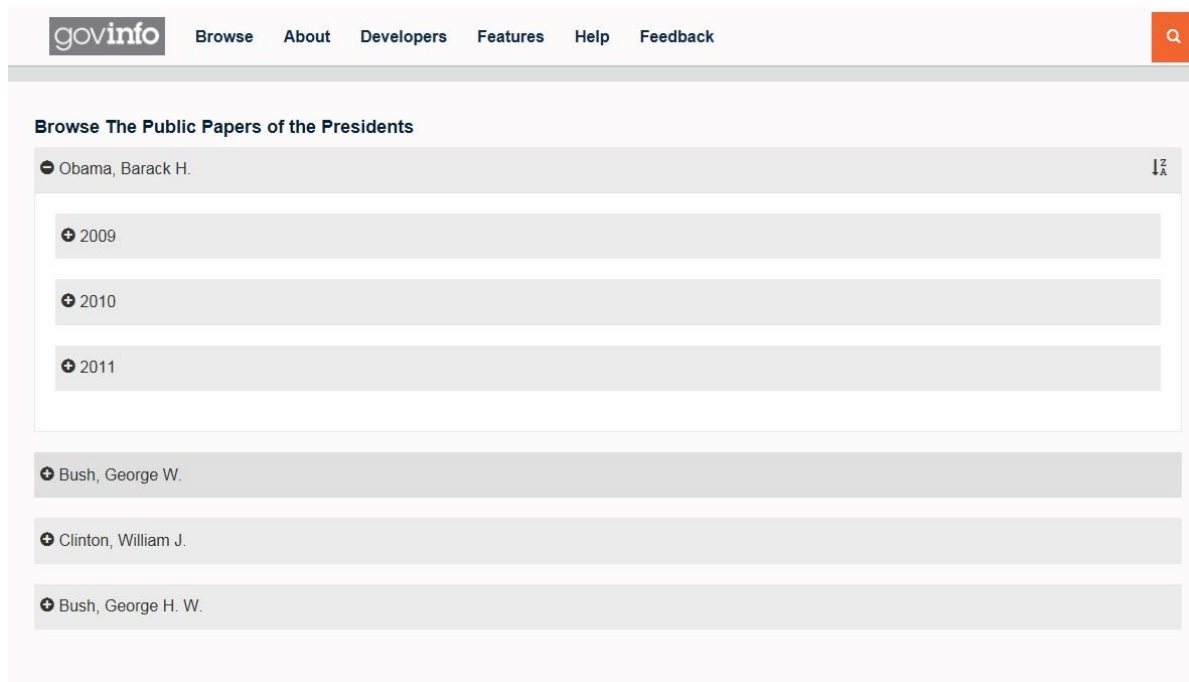


Govinfo.gov:

<https://govinfo.gov/app/browse/#browse/collection?collectionCode=CPD&browsePath=2016/01&fetchChildrenOnly=0>

Presidential Documents

Public Papers of the Presidents



The screenshot shows the Govinfo website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the 'govinfo' logo and links for 'Browse', 'About', 'Developers', 'Features', 'Help', and 'Feedback'. A search icon is located on the right side of the navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is titled 'Browse The Public Papers of the Presidents'. Under this title, there is a list of presidents with expandable sections for their public papers. The first president listed is Barack H. Obama, with expandable sections for the years 2009, 2010, and 2011. Below Obama, there are sections for George W. Bush, William J. Clinton, and George H. W. Bush, each with a plus sign indicating they are expandable.

Govinfo.gov:

<https://govinfo.gov/app/browse/#browse/collection?collectionCode=PPP&browsePath=president-57&fetchChildrenOnly=0>



Regulations or Rule-making

- Congress passes laws.
- Federal agencies then take action by implementing rules within their authority that enforce those laws.
- Regulations are issued by Federal agencies under the authority delegated to them by Federal law or a Presidential executive order.

Regulatory publications

- *Federal Register* – the Federal Register is the official daily publication for rules, proposed rules, and notices of Federal agencies and organizations, as well as executive orders and other presidential documents (51 FR 33948)
- *Unified Agenda* – Semiannual compilation that reports Federal agency rulemaking activities for the upcoming year (within certain criteria)
 - Published in the *Federal Register*

Federal Register Sections

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
 16 CFR Part 310
Telemarketing Sales Rule
AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.
ACTION: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

SUMMARY: In this document, the Federal Trade Commission (the "Commission" or "FTC") issues a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to amend the FTC's Telemarketing Sales Rule, and requests public comment on the proposed changes. The Telemarketing Sales Rule prohibits specific deceptive and abusive telemarketing acts or practices, requires disclosure of certain material

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
Notice Concerning Telemarketing Sales Rule
AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC" or "Commission") announces that in response to petitions from the Direct Marketing Association ("DMA") and the American Teleservices Association ("ATA"), the Commission has decided to extend the date by which it will require full compliance with § 310.4(b)(4)(iii) of the Amended Telemarketing Sales Rule ("TSR") until October 1, 2003.
DATES: The Commission will require full compliance with § 310.4(b)(4)(iii) on October 1, 2003.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
 16 CFR Part 310
 RIN 3084-0098
Telemarketing Sales Rule
AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.
ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC" or "Commission"), pursuant to a directive in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004, issues its Statement of Basis and Purpose ("SBP") and final amended Telemarketing Sales Rule ("TSR" or "Rule") Section 310.4(b)(3)(iv). This amended section of the TSR now requires sellers and telemarketers in comply provis

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
 16 CFR Part 310
Telemarketing Sales Rule
AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.
ACTION: Final Amended Rule.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC" or "Commission") issues its Statement of Basis and Purpose ("SBP") and final amended Telemarketing Sales Rule ("amended Rule"). The amended Rule sets forth the FTC's amendments to the Telemarketing Sales Rule ("original Rule" or "TSR"). The amended Rule is issued pursuant to the Commission's

Presidential Documents

Federal Register
 Vol. 71, No. 26
 Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Title 3— Proclamation 7979 of February 3, 2006
 The President National Consumer Protection Week, 2006

By the President of the United States of America



Regulatory publications

- *Code of Federal Regulations* - annual edition is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the departments and agencies of the Federal Government (36 CFR 701.6)
- *List of CFR Sections Affected* - proposed, new, and amended Federal regulations that have been published in the Federal Register since the most recent revision date of a CFR title



Regulatory publications

Other ways to find if regulations have been updated:

- Browse “CFR Parts Affected from the Federal Register” in the CFR LSA collection in FDsys (www.gpo.gov/fdsys/)
- Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (e-CFR) - compilation of CFR and FR amendments, updated but unofficial version

Regulations.gov



The screenshot shows the Regulations.gov homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Help, Resources, and Contact Us. Below this is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and the text 'Search', and buttons for 'Browse' and 'Learn'. A prominent banner reads 'Make a difference. Submit your comments and let your voice be heard.' Below the banner is a search box with the text 'SEARCH for: Rules, Comments, Adjudications or Supporting Documents:' and a 'Search' button. To the left, there is a 'What's Trending' section with a bar chart icon, listing several items with their closing dates. To the right, there is a 'Comments Due Soon' section with a list of items and their due dates. Below that is a 'Newly Posted' section with a list of items and their posting dates. On the far right, there is a 'DOS REGULATIONS Twitter Page' section with a Twitter logo and a link to follow @DOSRegs!. At the bottom, there is a footer with links for Home, About Us, Resources, Help, and Connect With, along with social media icons for RSS and Twitter.

- Includes Proposed Rules, Rules, and Notices from the *Federal Register*
- Submit or find Public Comments
- Set an email alert to track a proposed regulation

Federalregister.gov

  Sections  Browse  Search  Reader Aids  My FR




FEDERAL REGISTER


The Daily Journal of the United States Government


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Thursday, September 15th





 **Current Issue** 117 documents from 48 agencies (310 Pages)
94 Notices 9 Proposed Rules 14 Rules 2 Significant Documents

 Public Inspection	Special Filing <i>updated on 04:15 PM, on Wednesday, September 14th, 2016</i>	Regular Filing <i>updated on 08:45 AM, on Thursday, September 15th, 2016</i>
	3 documents from 3 agencies	143 documents from 51 agencies
	2 Notices 1 Rule	112 Notices 2 Presidential Documents 8 Proposed Rules 21 Rules

 Search All Federal Register Documents Since 1994

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 Money	 Controlled Unclassified Information by the Information Security Oversight Office on 09/14/2016	 Suggested Searches view all
 Environment		Health Care Reform 272 documents in the last year 0 open for comment Veterans Employment & Training



Statistical Information and Portals

- Statistical Abstract of the United States/Historical Statistics of the United States
- Census
- Data.gov

Statistical Abstract



Source: https://www.census.gov/library/publications/time-series/statistical_abstracts.html



Census

- American Community Survey (ACS)
- American FactFinder
- Census of Governments
- Decennial Census of Population and Housing
- Economic Census
- Economic Indicators

Data.gov



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The home of the U.S. Government's open data

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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D.C. Higher Education Financial Services

The Higher Education Financial Services' programs and services include, but are not limited to:

The D.C. Adoption Scholarship (DCAS)- DCAS offers grant awards up to \$10,000 per year for up to six years, with a lifetime maximum of \$50,000, to District of Col...

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District of Columbia Healthy Families Insurance (SCHIP)

The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provides health coverage to nearly eight million children and families with incomes too high to qualify for Medicaid, but can't afford private coverage.

In some states, CHIP covers parents and pregnant women....

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District of Columbia Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a Federally-funded program that helps low-income households with their home energy bills. LIHEAP can help you stay warm in the winter and cool in the summer. By doing so, you can reduce the risk of health and safety...

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District of Columbia Medicaid

Medicaid provides health coverage to millions of Americans, including children, pregnant women, parents, seniors and individuals with disabilities. In some states the program covers all low-income adults below a certain income level.

Note: Medicaid is someti...

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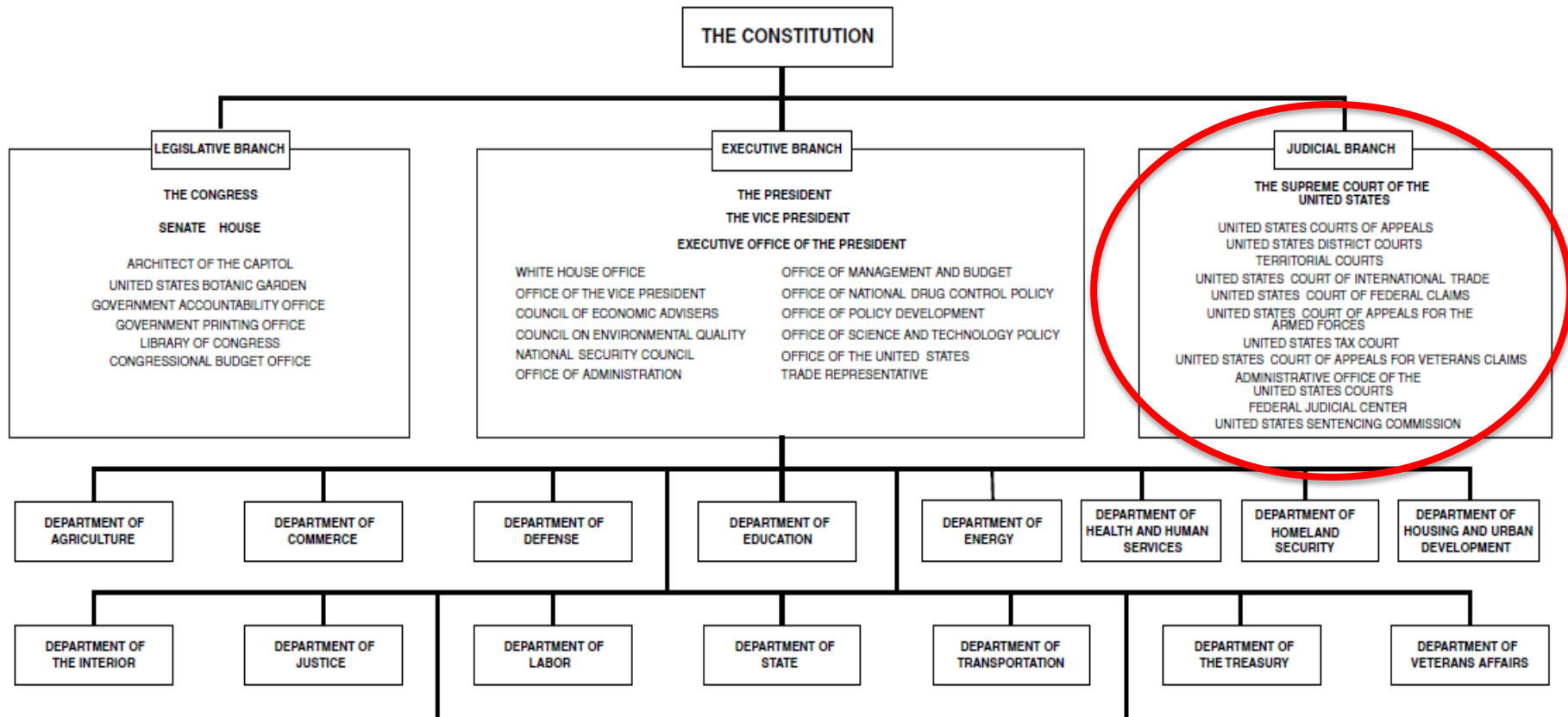
District of Columbia School Breakfast and Lunch Program

The School Breakfast Program (SBP) provides cash assistance to states to operate nonprofit breakfast programs in schools and residential childcare institutions. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition service administers the SBP at the Federal...

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Judicial Branch

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES



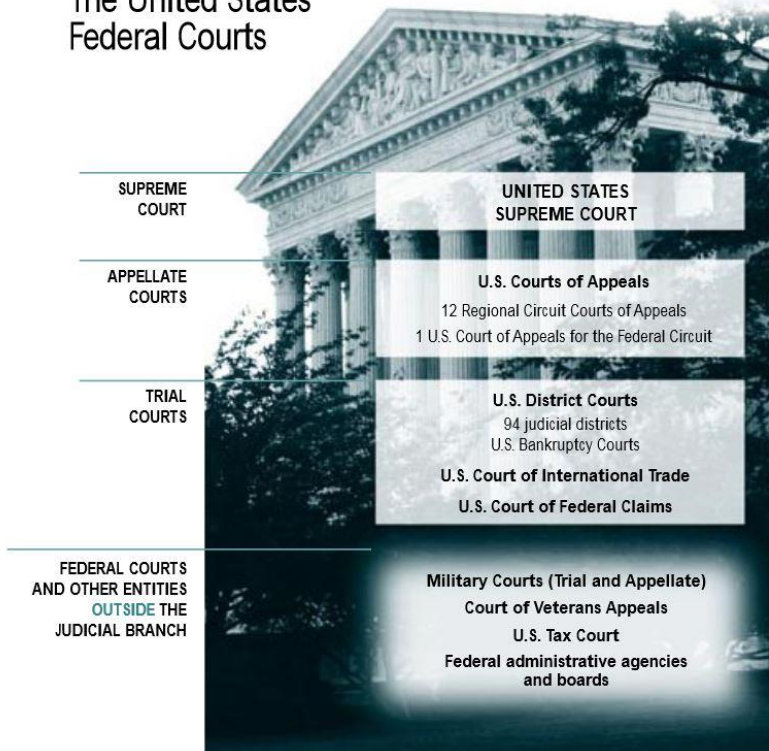


Judicial Branch

- “Federal courts hear cases involving the constitutionality of a law, cases involving the laws and treaties of the U.S. ambassadors and public ministers, disputes between two or more states, admiralty law, also known as maritime law, and bankruptcy cases.” (“Court role and structure”, U.S. Courts website)
- The Federal Judiciary encompasses the Supreme Court and the lower Federal courts (U.S. Courts of Appeals, U.S. District Courts, and U.S. Courts of Special Jurisdiction).

Structure of Federal judiciary

The United States
Federal Courts



From Administrative Office of
the U.S. Courts *Understanding
the Federal Courts*

- Supreme Court
- Appellate Courts (U.S. Court of Appeals)
- Trial Courts (U.S. District Courts, +)
- Federal Courts and other entities outside the Judicial Branch



Supreme Court decisions

- *United States Reports* - final, official bound record of Supreme Court decisions
 - “Bluebook” citation example: *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973)
 - Preceding *United States Reports*, in order:
 - Bench opinions
 - Slip opinions
 - Preliminary prints
- Court’s website <http://www.supremecourt.gov/> includes opinions back to the 1991 term



Other Federal courts

- Available from numerous sources
- No official reporter exists for the U.S. Courts of Appeals or U.S. District Courts
- Not all opinions are ordered to be published
- Court websites - <http://www.uscourts.gov/court-locator>
- **govinfo** United States Courts Opinions collection - opinions back to 2004 from selected United States appellate, district, and bankruptcy courts
- Public Library of Law, Justia, Google Scholar

Tips

- Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP)
- GPO and other webinars/online training
- Presidential libraries
- State Data Centers
- Non-government sources
 - Military libraries
 - Digitization project content

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Example: wildlife "environmental impact statement" NOT draft

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- Online records include PURLs
- Increasing access to pre-1976 records with Historic Shelflist records, serials check-in, and records from special projects

Government Information

- GPO provides webinars and other training through the FDLP Academy. <http://www.fdlp.gov/about-the-fdlp/fdlp-academy>



- Help, I'm an accidental government information librarian! webinar series
 - <http://www.nclaonline.org/government-resources/help-im-accidental-government-information-librarian-webinars>

Government Information

- Federal Depository Library Conference (part of FDLP Academy) – mid-October conference in Crystal City is free to register and open to all. You're welcome to attend!

- GPO mobile apps



- E-Books <http://www.fdlp.gov/project-list/ebooks-at-gpo>
- GovBookTalk blog 
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Thank you! Questions?

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