

# **Congressional Hearings in GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys)**

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/>

# Congressional Hearings Learning Objectives

- Learn about Congressional Hearings
  - General background and related information
- Learn about the Congressional Hearings collection in FDsys
  - Availability and discovery of content

# Congressional Hearings: What is a hearing?

- A hearing is a session, most often of a legislative committee, in which testimony is taken from witnesses and 'heard' by members of the committee

# 2014 Congress Committee structure

House	Senate
<b>Standing Committees</b>	
Agriculture	Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Appropriations	Appropriations
Armed Services	Armed Services
Budget	Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Education and the Workforce	Budget
Energy and Commerce	Commerce, Science, and
Ethics	Energy and Natural Resources
Financial Services	Environment and Public Works
Foreign Affairs	Finance
Homeland Security	Foreign Relations
House Administration	Health, Education, Labor, and
Judiciary	Homeland Security and
Natural Resources	Judiciary
Oversight and Government Reform	Rules and Administration
Rules	Small Business and Entrepreneurship
Science, Space, and Technology	Veterans' Affairs
Small Business	
Transportation and Infrastructure	
Veterans' Affairs	
Ways and Means	
<b>Special and Select Committees</b>	
Intelligence (Permanent) (Select	Aging (Special Committee)
	Ethics (Select Committee)
	Indian Affairs (Other Committee)
	Intelligence (Select Committee)
<b>Joint Committees</b>	
Joint Economic	
Joint Library	
Joint Printing	
Joint Taxation	

# Types of Hearings

- Legislative hearings
- Investigative hearings
- Oversight hearings
- Confirmation hearings

# Legislative Hearings

- The most common type of hearing
- Frequently occur when a specific measure is being considered

**BUILDING AMERICA: CHALLENGES FOR SMALL  
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS**

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**HEARING**

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONTRACTING AND  
TECHNOLOGY

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

UNITED STATES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

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HEARING HELD  
MAY 23, 2013

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**THE RISE OF 3D PRINTING: OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
ENTREPRENEURS**

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**HEARING**

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

UNITED STATES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

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HEARING HELD  
MARCH 12, 2014

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# Investigative Hearings

- Investigate a topic of interest
- Possible illegal activities

**INVESTIGATION OF MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS AT  
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY**

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**HEARINGS**  
BEFORE THE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS  
OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND  
COMMERCE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH CONGRESS  
FIRST SESSION

FEBRUARY 26 and MARCH 12, 2003

**Serial No. 108-13**

Printed for the use of the Committee on Energy and Commerce

S. Hrg. 112-340

**THE COMMITTEE'S INVESTIGATION INTO  
COUNTERFEIT ELECTRONIC PARTS IN THE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SUPPLY CHAIN**

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**HEARING**  
BEFORE THE  
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
UNITED STATES SENATE  
ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS  
FIRST SESSION

NOVEMBER 8, 2011

Printed for the use of the Committee on Armed Services

# Oversight Hearings

- Look more closely at the administration of Federal agencies
- May gather information if questions have arisen about management
- Can occur during reauthorization of a program

**THE FUTURE OF  
THE NATIONAL MALL**

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**OVERSIGHT HEARING**

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, FORESTS  
AND PUBLIC LANDS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

Friday, June 1, 2012

**Serial No. 112-114**

Printed for the use of the Committee on Natural Resources

**LEGISLATIVE HEARING ON H.R. 4094,  
"PRESERVING ACCESS TO CAPE  
HATTERAS NATIONAL SEASHORE  
RECREATIONAL AREA ACT"; AND  
OVERSIGHT HEARING ON "ACCESS  
DENIED: TURNING AWAY VISITORS  
TO NATIONAL PARKS"**

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**LEGISLATIVE AND  
OVERSIGHT HEARING**

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, FORESTS  
AND PUBLIC LANDS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

Friday, April 27, 2012

# Confirmation Hearings

- Senate conducts confirmation hearings
- Conducted for presidential nominees
- Not a requirement for all nominees

S. HRG. 111-503

**CONFIRMATION HEARING ON THE NOMINATION  
OF HON. SONIA SOTOMAYOR, TO BE AN  
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT  
OF THE UNITED STATES**

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**HEARING**

BEFORE THE

**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

**UNITED STATES SENATE**

**ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS**

**FIRST SESSION**

**JULY 13-16, 2009**

**Serial No. J-111-34**

Printed for the use of the Committee on the Judiciary

S. HRG. 107-196

**CONFIRMATION HEARING ON THE  
NOMINATION OF JOHN ASHCROFT  
TO BE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE  
UNITED STATES**

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**HEARING**

BEFORE THE

**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

**UNITED STATES SENATE**

**ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS**

**FIRST SESSION**

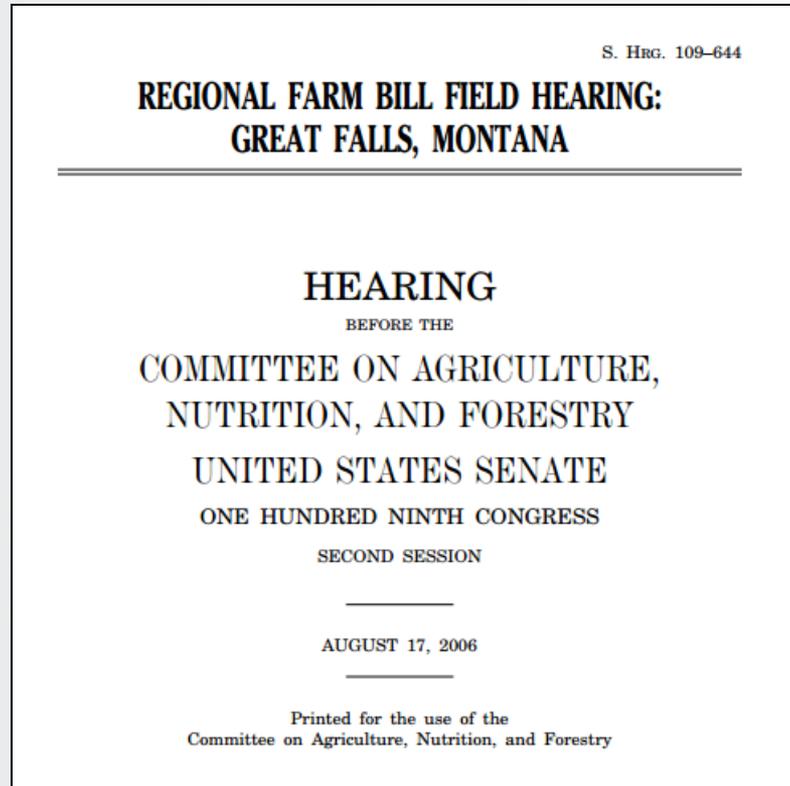
**JANUARY 16-19, 2001**

**Serial No. J-107-1**

Printed for the use of the Committee on the Judiciary

# Field Hearings

- Held outside of the capitol, at a site usually related to the topic of the hearing

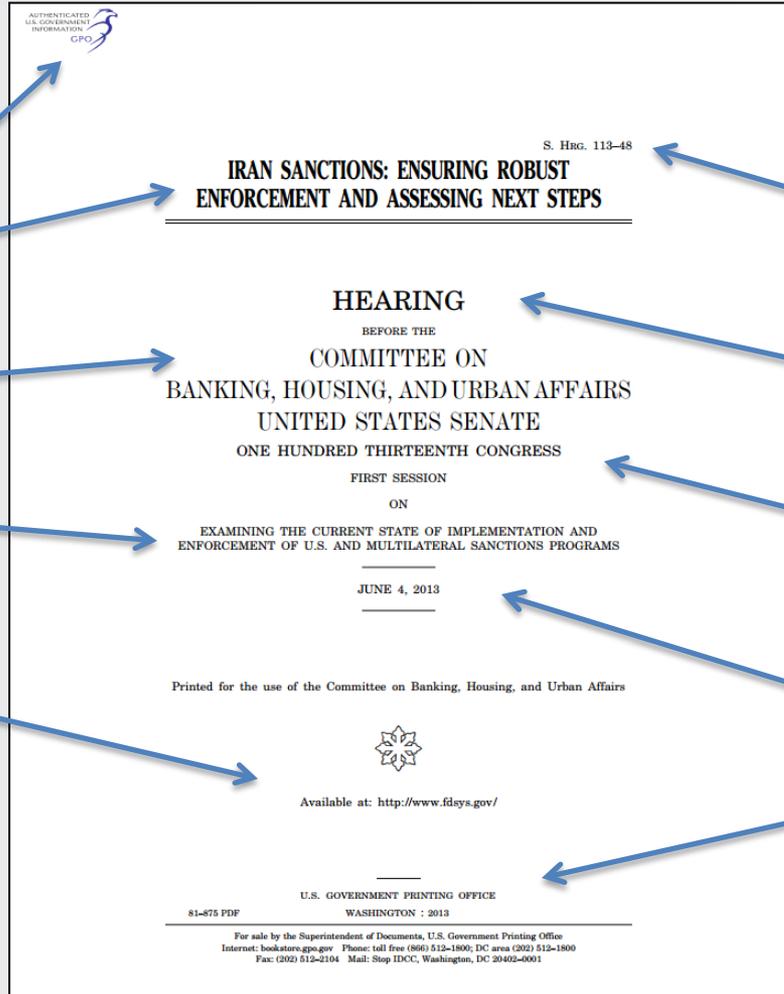


# Witnesses at Hearings



Images: NY Times, Edutopia.org

Authentication  
Title  
Committee name  
Additional information  
FDsys availability



Hearing number (H,S)  
Type of hearing  
Session of congress  
Date  
GPO printing and contact

## COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

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CHARLES E. SCHUMER, New York

ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey

SHERROD BROWN, Ohio

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JIM CROWELL, *Editor*

(II)

- Committee name
- Chairman
- Committee members
- Staff names

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## **IRAN SANCTIONS: ENSURING ROBUST ENFORCEMENT AND ASSESSING NEXT STEPS**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2013**

U.S. SENATE,  
COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, DC.*

The Committee met at 10:05 a.m., in room SD-538, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. Tim Johnson, Chairman of the Committee, presiding.

### **OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN TIM JOHNSON**

Chairman JOHNSON. Good morning. I call this hearing to order, and I welcome my colleagues and our witnesses.

Today's hearing is part of our oversight efforts to ensure effective enforcement of the Iran sanctions regime overseen by this Committee. We will assess what additional tools might enable the President to intensify the economic pressure on Iran's leaders to make clear that they must reverse course and satisfy the unified demands of the international community to abandon their illicit nuclear activities and support for terrorism.

Two weeks ago, the Senate again made clear where we stood, voting 99-0 for a resolution expressing support for aggressive sanctions enforcement and for Israel's right to defend itself against threats from Iran.

In addition to sanctions on Iran in place prior to 2010, in the last 3 years Congress adopted and the President signed into law an unprecedented four new sanctions measures. These measures, coupled with those imposed by the Administration, the European Union, and the U.N. Security Council, have had profound effects. They have slowed Iran's nuclear and missile program by restricting its

- Date
- Time
- Location
- Presiding officer
- Purpose of hearing

# Congressional Hearings in FDsys

- House, Senate, and Joint committee hearings
  - 105<sup>th</sup> Congress (1997-1998) forward
- House and Senate appropriations hearings for fiscal year 1998 forward
  - Text and PDF (Graphics omitted from ASCII text versions)

# Congressional Hearings in FDsys

- Selected hearings available from 1985-1986
  - 99-104<sup>th</sup> Congresses
  - Browse Government Publications > Congressional Hearings > expand by year
- Complete transcripts from the Senate Committee on the Judiciary: Supreme Court Nomination Hearings
  - 1971-forward

# Retrieve by Citation

- Code of Federal Regulations
- Congressional Bills
- Congressional Documents
- Congressional Record
- Congressional Record (Bound)
- Congressional Reports
- Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents
- Federal Register
- Public and Private Laws
- Public Papers of the Presidents
- Statutes at Large
- Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents
- United States Code

# Search examples in FDsys

[www.gpo.gov/fdsys](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys)

- Browse
  - Browse Collection
  - Browse Committees
- Basic Search
- Advanced Search
- Help

# Browse

- Congressional Hearings link on FDsys home page
- Browse Government Publications has 'Congressional Committee' tab
  - Congressional Hearings
  - Congressional Committee Prints
  - Legislative Publications
  - Legislative Calendars
  - Reports

# Basic Search

- Search example:
  - Congressional Hearings on the Keystone XL pipeline

# Advanced Search

- Search example:
  - Congressional Hearings from 2013 forward on 'net neutrality'
  - Ben Affleck

# Help

- Static link at top navigation of FDsys site
- Depending on where you click on 'Help', it will open to context-specific page in the Help documentation



[www.fdsys.gov](http://www.fdsys.gov)

Tracking a piece of legislation is easy using FDsys.

1



History of Bills

2



Congressional  
Bills

3



Congressional  
Record

4



Bound  
Congressional  
Record

5



Public and  
Private Laws

6



Statutes at Large

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United State Code

# FDsys Educational Webinars

- Upcoming Sessions & Archived Sessions:
- <http://fdlp.gov/about-the-fdlp/training-and-events>

# Questions?

Visit <http://www.gpo.gov/askgpo/>

Click – Ask a Question

Category – FDsys: Federal Digital System

Subcategory – FDsys Training