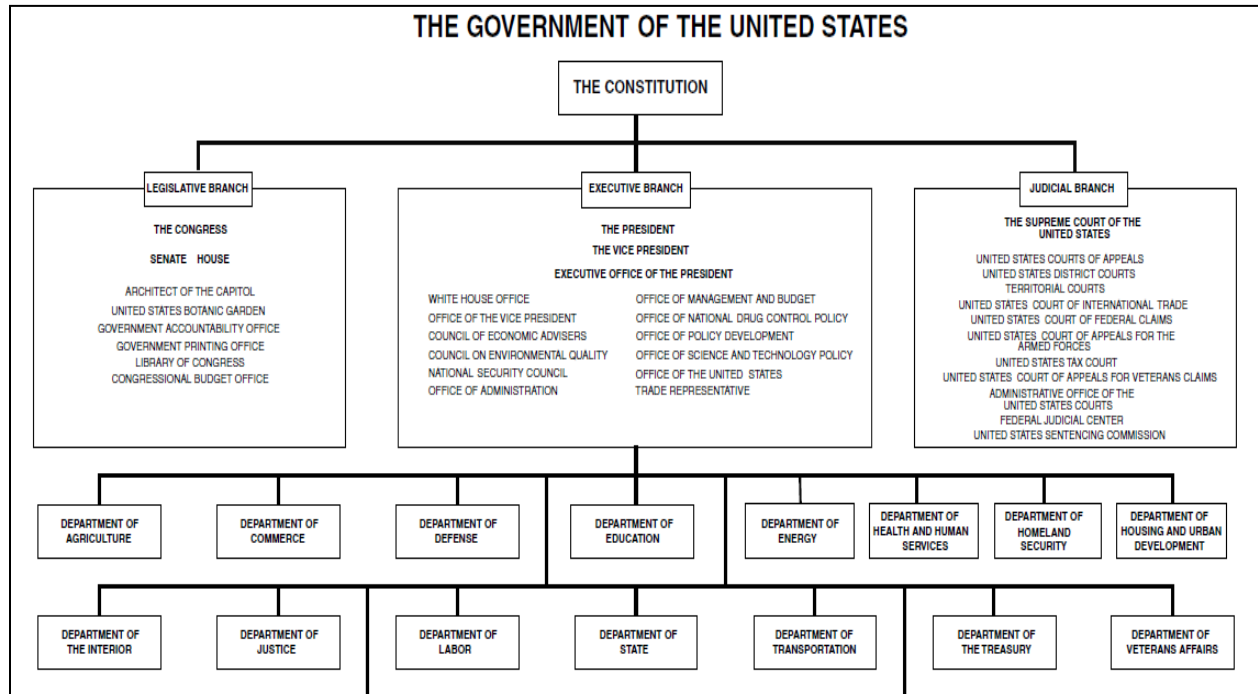


Advanced Navigation in GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys)

Tracking Legislation in GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys):

Structure of the Government:

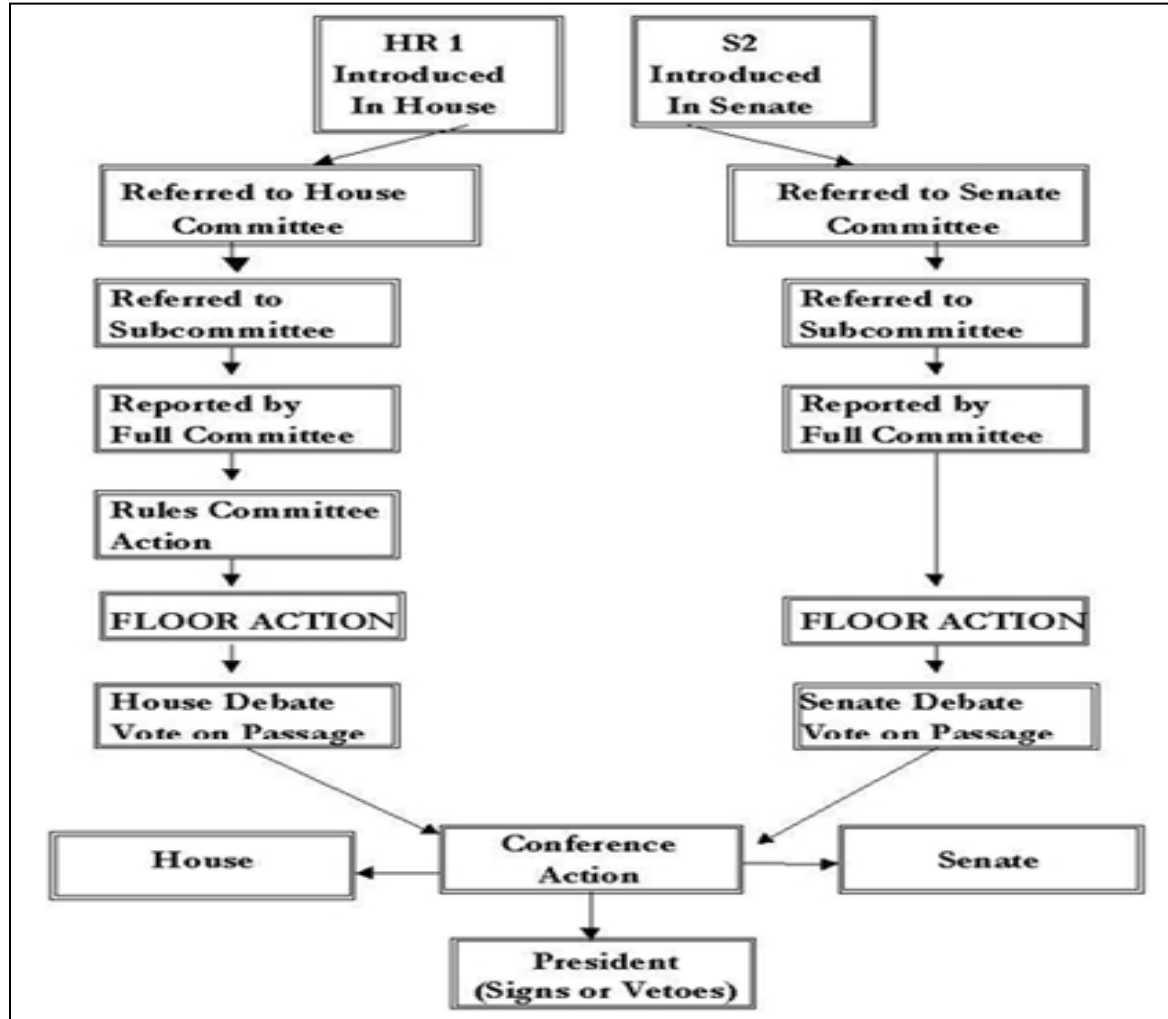


Legislative Powers:

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:



Four Forms of Legislative Proposals:

- The bill
 - H.R. #
 - S. #
- The concurrent resolution
 - H. Con. Res. #
 - S. Con. Res. #
- The joint resolution
 - H.J. Res. #
 - S.J. Res #
- The simple resolution
 - H. Res. #
 - S. Res #

Two Types of Bills:

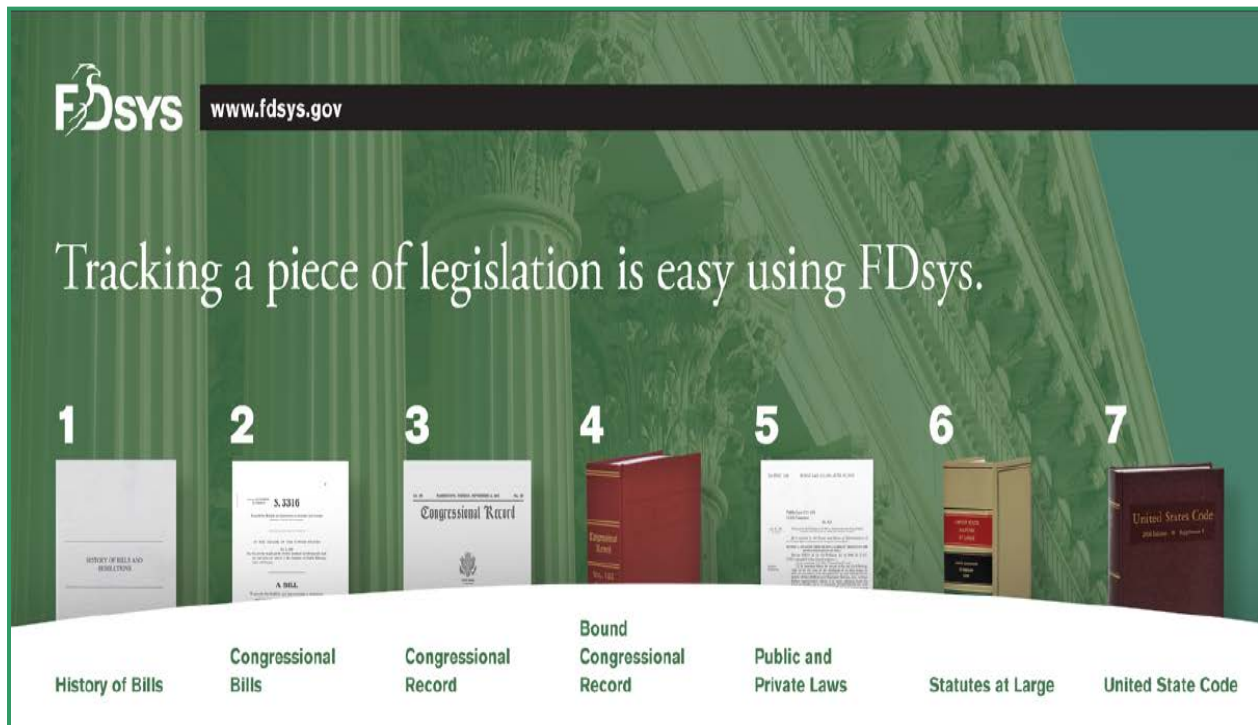
- 1) Public bill – affects the general public
- 2) Private bill – affects individual or private entity rather than the public at large

We are going to track the *Combating Autism Act of 2006 (S. 843)* through the legislative process

- This law authorized nearly one billion dollars in expenditures, over five years beginning in 2007, to combat a wide spectrum of autism disorders through screening, education, early intervention, prompt referrals for treatment and services, and research.

We will search across the following FDsys collections:

- *History of Bills*
- *Congressional Record*
- *Congressional Bills*
- *Public and Private Laws*
- *U.S. Statutes at Large*
- *U.S. Code*



History of Bills

- It is an Index to the legislative actions on bills as reported in the *Congressional Record*.
- In print, the *History of Bills* is part of the *Congressional Record Index*, a biweekly publication.
- FDsys has 1983 to the present
- Updated daily
- Available in ASCII text format

A typical *History of Bills* entry includes:

- Bill number
- Title
- Summary
- Names of Sponsors & Cosponsors
- Chronological list of actions on the bill

Note: Each action references a *Congressional Record* page number and the date when the action was reported in the format, e.g. "S5798 [9JN]".

Search Example:

- *History of Bills Basic Search*

FDsys homepage

Type: S. 843

Collection: History of Bills

Congress Number: 109th

Congressional Record

- The record of the public proceedings of each House of Congress, as reported by their Official Reporters
- Published daily when Congress is in session
- FDsys has volume 140 (1994) to the present
- Updated daily by 11 a.m. (ET)

Congressional Record Sections:

- **Daily Digest** (e.g. D1234) - back of each issue; table of contents for the day's activities
- **House section** (e.g. H1234) – public proceedings and debates of the House (spoken and inserted word), registered lobbyists
- **Senate section** (e.g. S1234) – public proceedings and debates of the Senate (spoken and inserted word)
- **Extension of Remarks** (e.g. E1234) – tributes, statements, other information

Congressional Record (Bound Edition)

- Official record of proceedings of each House of Congress, as reported by the Official Reporters
- At the end of each session of Congress, all daily editions are re-paginated and re-indexed into a bound edition
- One volume per session of Congress, each volume published in multiple parts
- FDsys has volumes from 1998 to 2002

Search Examples:

- *Congressional Record Advanced Search*

FDsys homepage

Advanced Search

Date is Between: 2005 and 2006

Collection: Congressional Record
Type: "S. 843"

- *Congressional Record Retrieve by Citation*

FDsys homepage
Retrieve by Citation
Collection: Congressional Record
Volume: 152 (2006)
Section: House of Representatives
Numerical Page Number: 8779

Congressional Bills

- Collection containing all published versions of Congressional bills
- FDsys has all published bills from 103rd (1993-1994) Congress forward
- Updated daily by 6 a.m. (ET) when bills are published and approved

Note: Bill numbers are assigned in order of introduction

Approximately 50 bill versions, for example:

(is) – Introduced in Senate	(eh) – Engrossed in House
(ih) – Introduced in House	(es) – Engrossed in Senate
(pch) – Placed on House Calendar	(enr) – Enrolled Bill
(pcs) – Placed on Senate Calendar	

Note: View versions and definitions in FDsys Help 'About Congressional Bills' at
http://www.gpo.gov/help/about_congressional_bills.htm

Search Example:

- *Congressional Bills Complex Search*

FDsys homepage
Type: collection:bills content:"S. 843" congress:109
Old to New

Public and Private Laws

- After a bill is signed into law, it is then delivered to the Office of the Federal Register (OFR) of the National Archives & Records Administration (NARA)
- The OFR then:
 - assigns law numbers,
 - applies the legal statutory citation,
 - prepares the publication as a slip law by creating:
 - marginal notes,
 - citations, and
 - a legislative history for each law
- FDsys has the 104th Congress (1995-1996) to the present

Search Example:

- Public and Private Laws Basic Search

FDsys homepage

Type: "combating autism act of 2006"

Collection: Public and Private Laws

United States Statutes at Large

- Permanent collection of all laws and resolutions enacted during each session of Congress
- Every public and private law passed by Congress is published in the *U.S. Statutes at Large* in the order of the date it was enacted into law.
- The *U.S. Statutes at Large* also contains concurrent resolutions, proclamations by the President, proposed and ratified amendments to the Constitution, and reorganization plans.
- FDsys has volumes from 2003 to 2007 and historical digitized volumes 1951 to 2002

Search Example:

- *United States Statutes at Large Complex Search*

FDsys homepage

Type: collection:statute "120 stat 2821"

United States Code

- Codification by subject matter of U.S. laws
- Divided by broad subjects into 51 titles
- Print version is updated every 6 years – between editions, annual cumulative supplements are published in order to present the most current information
- FDsys has 1994, 2000, 2006 editions and annual supplements; contained within the virtual main edition volumes of the *U.S. Code*

Search Example:

- *United States Code Basic Search*

FDsys homepage

Type: 42 usc 201

Browse Example:

- *United States Code Browse*

FDsys homepage

United States Code

2009

Title 42

Chapter 6A-Public Health Service

Additional FDsys Collections that Impact the Legislative Process

- *Congressional Hearings*
- *Congressional Reports*
- *Congressional Committee Prints*
- *Congressional Documents*
- *Congressional Calendars*

Legislative Exercise:

Use any method of searching or browsing in FDsys to locate the Congressional Record page number for, and the senator who, provided the Statement on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions for the Senate version of this bill (S. 886 – Interstate Horseracing Improvement Act of 2011).

Tracking Regulations in GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys):

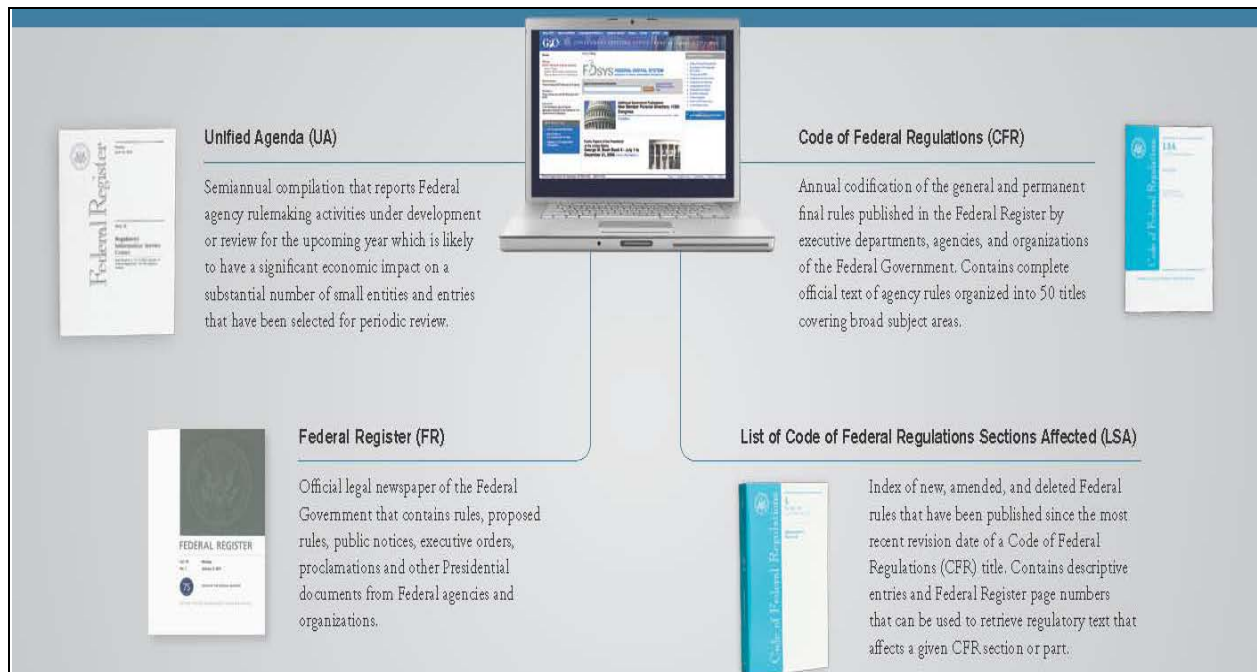
Agency Rulemaking Process

- 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.

We are going to track a regulation related to the Do Not Call Registry

We will search across the following FDsys collections:

- *Federal Register*
- *Code of Federal Regulations*
- *List of Code of Federal Regulations Affected*
- *Unified Agenda*

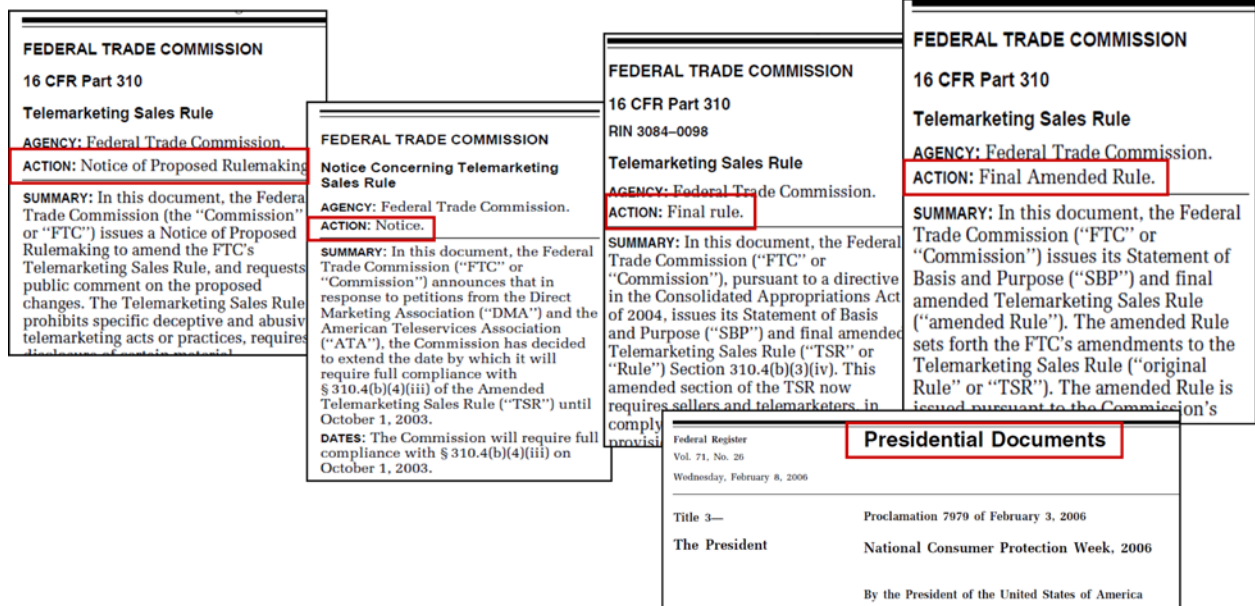


Federal Register (FR)

- Official announcement of regulations and legal notices
- Informs citizens of their rights and obligations
- Provides access to a wide range of Federal benefits and opportunities for funding
- FDsys has content from 1994 to the present

The Federal Register is divided into four sections, or categories of documents:

- **Rules and regulations** - contains final rules and regulations, regulatory documents having general applicability and legal effect. Also contains interim rules that are issued without prior notice and are effective immediately; the interim rule is designed to respond to an emergency situation. This section serves to keep the CFR current.
- **Proposed rules** - notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.
- **Notices** - provide information of interest to the public. Including: Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, and grant application deadlines.
- **Presidential Documents** - contains documents signed by the President and submitted to the Office of the Federal Register for publication. Including: Proclamations, Executive orders and reorganization plans.



Search Example:

- *Federal Register Basic Search*

FDsys homepage

Type: "do not call registry"

Narrow by Collection: Federal Register

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)

- Codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register
- Official and complete text of agency regulations in an organized fashion in a single publication
- 50 titles representing broad areas subject to Federal regulation
- Revised once each calendar year and is issued on a quarterly basis
 - Titles 1-16 are revised as of January 1; titles 17-27 are revised as of April 1; titles 28-41 are revised as of July 1, and titles 42-50 are revised as of October 1.
 - In our search example, title 16 is revised as of January 1
 - That means that amendments as of January 1 are incorporated each year
 - Note that January 1 is not the date for which the publication will be published
- Volumes are added to FDsys concurrent with the release of the paper editions
- FDsys has CFR titles available from 1996 to the present

Browse Example:

- *Code of Federal Regulations Browse*

Browse Government Publications

Code of Federal Regulations

2011

Title 16 – Commercial Practices
Chapter 1 – Federal Trade Commission (parts 0-999)
Subchapter C - Regulations Under Specific Acts of Congress (parts 300-322)
Part 310 – Telemarketing Sales Rule 16 CFR 310
More link

e-CFR

- Currently updated version of the CFR
- **Not an official legal edition of the CFR**
- It is an editorial compilation of CFR material and Federal Register amendments
- Updated on a daily basis by the Office of the Federal Register
- The current update status appears at the top of all e-CFR Web pages

List of CFR Sections Affected (LSA)

- Lists proposed, new, and amended regulations published since most recent revision of a CFR title
- Contains CFR part and section numbers, a description of the regulation's status, and the FR page number
- It is an index with limited keywords
- You must know CFR title and part or section to use LSA
- Use the browse ***CFR Parts Affected from the Federal Register*** to monitor the most current changes (daily/weekly) for a regulation
- FDsys has content from 1986 forward

Search Example:

- *List of CFR Sections Affected Advanced Search*

FDsys homepage
Advanced Search
All Dates
Collections: List of CFR Sections Affected
Title Number: 16

Browse Example:

- *List of CFR Sections Affected Browse*

Browse Government Publications
List of CFR Sections Affected
Browse CFR Parts Affected From the Federal Register
Latest Month
Title 16

Unified Agenda

- Review of agency regulatory agendas, which describe recently completed or in-development regulations

- Why? Agencies are required to: publish a “*Regulatory Plan*” once a year in the fall and an “*Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions*” in the spring and fall (collectively referred to as the ‘Unified Agenda’)
- Agencies use the Unified Agenda to announce future rulemaking and update the public on regulatory actions
- Compiled by GSA’s Regulatory Information Service Center in cooperation with OMB’s Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA)
- Beginning with the 2007 edition – The Unified Agenda reports only those rules that are likely to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities and entries that have been selected for periodic review under section 610 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act

Search Example:

- *Unified Agenda Basic Search*

FDsys homepage

Type: “16 CFR 310”

Narrow by Collection: Additional Government Publications

Narrow by Publication Name: Unified Agenda

Regulatory Exercise:

Use any method of searching or browsing in FDsys to locate the 2011 final rule in the Federal Register for the Telemarketing Sales Rule Fees that amends 16 CFR 310.
