

AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE UNITED STATES CODE

OBJECTIVES

- Introduce the Office of the Law Revision Counsel (OLRC)
- Introduce the United States Code and historical development
- Describe process of updating the United States Code
- Provide overview of positive law codification
- Show features of Code website

OFFICE OF THE LAW REVISION COUNSEL



- An independent, nonpolitical office within the House of Representatives
- A team of 17 individuals including—
 - 7 attorneys who maintain the United States Code
 - 4 attorneys who prepare positive law codification bills
 - 3 support staff for technical, editorial, and clerical functions
 - 2 former employee contractors and 1 GPO detailee

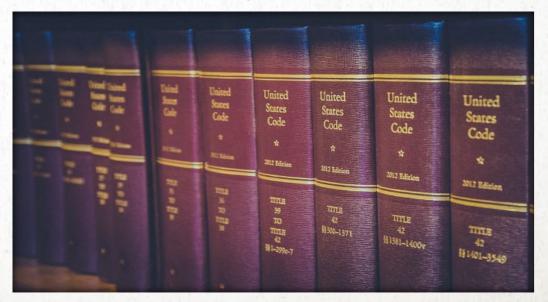
WHAT OLRC DOES

The Office of the Law Revision Counsel compiles, organizes, maintains, edits, updates, and improves the United States Code for publication...

UNITED STATES CODE Search & Browse The United States Code is a consolidation and codification by subject matter of the general and permanent laws of the United States. It is a Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the United States House of Representatives. For currency information, click here. **Currency and Updating** Search the United States Code **Classification Tables** Popular Name Tool Other Tables and Tools **Understanding the Code Positive Law Codification Editorial Reclassification** Browse the United States Code [Current change...] **Downloads** ⊕ *Title 1—General Provisions **THOMAS** ★ Title 3—The President **FDsys** ★Title 4—Flag And Seal, Seat Of Government, And The States ★Title 5—Government Organization And Employees; and Appendix

online

in print



WHAT IS THE UNITED STATES CODE?

- Codification of general and permanent Federal statutory law
- Organized into 53 broad subject matter titles
- Titles are of 2 types
 - Non-positive: Editorial arrangement of individual acts of Congress
 - Positive: Reorganized and restated title enacted by Congress
- Currently 27 of 53 titles are positive law, but only account for 25% of content

HISTORY

- Committee on Revision of Laws (1868-1946)
 - 1874 Revised Statutes
 - 74 titles
 - Repealed laws enacted up to December 1, 1873
 - 1878 Revised Statutes
 - 2nd Edition to remedy problems in 1st edition
 - Underlying laws not repealed; subsequent legislation not incorporated
 - 1919-1920 Reorganization work begins
 - 50 titles
 - Acts disassembled and recombined; substantial editorial involvement
 - Bills introduced in three Congresses passed House but failed in Senate

REVISED STATUTES

OF

THE UNITED STATES,

PASSED AT THE

FIRST SESSION OF THE FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS,

1873-'74;

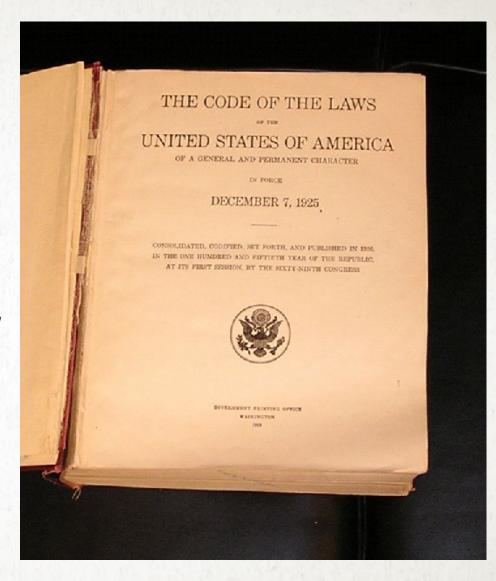
EMBRACING THE STATUTES OF THE UNITED STATES, GENERAL AND PERMANENT IN THEIR NATURE, IN FORCE ON THE FIRST DAY OF DECEMBER, ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-THREE, AS REVISED AND CONSOLIDATED BY COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED UNDER AN ACT OF CONGRESS;

WITE

AN APPENDIX

HISTORY

- 1926 United States Code
 - United States Code was adopted but not enacted
 - Underlying statutes not repealed
 - Code recognized as prima facie evidence of law
 - Titles to be enacted one at a time into positive law
- 1946 Merger with House Judiciary Committee
- 1974 Office of the Law Revision Counsel created
 - Get a better handle on production of the Code
 - Speed up effort to enact titles into positive law



UPDATING THE U.S. CODE

- 5,000 to 8,500 pages of new legislation enacted in each Congress
- Integrating new law into the Code involves 4 steps:

Classification

Text preparation

Text execution

Publication

CLASSIFICATION

Pub. L. 116-73 Nov. 26, 2019 133 Stat. 1154

H. R. 1123

One Hundred Sixteenth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE FIRST SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Thursday, the third day of January, two thousand and nineteen

An Act

To amend title 28, United States Code, to modify the composition of the eastern judicial district of Arkansas, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

28/1 note new Eastern District of Arkansas Act of 2019". SEC. 2. REALIGNMENT OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS.

Section 83(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

This Act may be cited as the "Divisional Realignment for the

28/83(a)

"(a) The Eastern District comprises three divisions.

"(1) The Central Division comprises the counties of Cleburne, Cleveland, Conway, Dallas, Drew, Faulkner, Grant, Jefferson, Lincoln, Lonoke, Perry, Pope, Prairie, Pulaski, Saline, Stone, Van Buren, White, and Yell.

Court for the Central Division shall be held at Little Rock.

"(2) The Delta Division comprises the counties of Arkansas. Chicot, Crittenden, Desha, Lee, Monroe, Phillips, and St. Francis

Court for the Delta Division shall be held at Helena.

"(3) The Northern Division comprises the counties of Clay, Craighead, Cross, Fulton, Greene, Independence, Izard, Jack-son, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, Randolph, Sharp, and

Court for the Northern Division shall be held at Jonesboro.'

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act and the amendment made by this Act shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

- Enrolled bill from Clerk's Office
- Team of attorneys reads each bill start to finish
- Lead classifier makes final decisions
- Goal is thorough, but quick, review of new laws
- Typically finished classifying before public law number issued

CLASSIFICATION CHALLENGES

- Bills often cover multiple subject areas
- Drafters typically don't give much thought to how a law will appear in the Code
- Bills are often a mixed bag of
 - general and special provisions
 - permanent and temporary provisions
 - amendatory and freestanding provisions

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

For expenses necessary for the management, operation, and maintenance of areas and facilities administered by the National Park Service and for the general administration of the National Park Service, \$2,888,424,000, of which \$11,661,000 for planning and interagency coordination in support of Everglades restoration and \$110,980,000 for maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation projects for constructed assets and \$188,184,000 for cyclic maintenance projects for constructed assets and cultural resources and \$10,000,000 for uses authorized by section 101122 of title 54, United States Code shall remain available until September 30, 2025, and not to exceed \$15,000 may be for official reception and representative expenses: Provided, That funds appropriated under this heading in this Act are available for the purposes of section 5 of Public Law 95–348: Provided further. That notwithstanding section 9 of the 400 Years of African-American History Commission Act (36 U.S.C. note prec. 101; Public Law 115-102), \$3,300,000 of the funds provided under this heading shall be made available for the purposes specified by that Act: Provided

36/101 nt prec

further, That sections 7(b) and 8 of that Act shall be amended by

striking "July 1, 2024" and inserting "July 1, 2025".

In addition, for purposes described in section 2404 of Public Law 116–9, an amount equal to the amount deposited in this fiscal year into the National Park Medical Services Fund established pursuant to such section of such Act, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from such Fund.

STATUTORY NOTES

- Freestanding provisions in bills
- Provide collateral support for, or additional information regarding, a Code section
- Positive law—not drafted into the title

- Common categories
 - Effective dates
 - Short titles
 - Rules of construction
 - Issuance of regulations
 - Creation of pilot program
 - Congressional findings
 - Definitions

Classification as a section, note, or not at all has no effect on validity!

STATUTORY NOTES AND RELATED SUBSIDIARIES

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Jan. 1, 1996, except as otherwise provided in Pub. L. 104–88, see section 2 of Pub. L. 104–88, set out as a note under section 1301 of this title.

APPLICATION OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF LAW

Pub. L. 109–59, title IV, §4202(c), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1752, provided that: "The provisions of title 49, United States Code, and this subtitle [subtitle B (§§4201–4216) of title IV of Pub. L. 109–59, see Short Title of 2005 Amendment note set out under section 10101 of this title] (including any amendments made by this subtitle), that relate to the transportation of household goods apply only to a household goods motor carrier (as defined in section 13102 of title 49, United States Code)."

DEFINITIONS

Pub. L. 109–59, title IV, §4202(a), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1751, provided that: "In this subtitle [subtitle B (§§4201–4216) of title IV of Pub. L. 109–59, see Short Title of 2005 Amendment note set out under section 10101 of this title], the terms 'carrier', 'household goods', 'motor carrier', 'Secretary', and 'transportation' have the meaning given to such terms in section 13102 of title 49. United States Code."

CLASSIFICATION TABLE

- Classifications first published in Classification Table on U.S. Code website
- Grouped by congressional session
- Viewable in law order or Code order

!!! CHANGE NOTICE !!! Search & Browse

Currency and Updating

Classification Tables

Popular Name Tool

Other OLRC Tables and Tools

Understanding the Code

Positive Law Codification

Editorial Reclassification

- . .

Other Legislative Resources

UNITED STATES CODE CLASSIFICATION TABLES

Office of the Law Revision Counsel

These tables show where recently enacted laws will appear in the United States Code and which sections of the Code have been amended by those laws. The tables sorted in Public Law order may be used to identify the sections of the Code affected by a particular law. The tables sorted in Code order may be used to determine whether a particular section of the Code has recently been amended. The tables only include those provisions of law that have been classified to the Code. The text of recently enacted laws may be found through the Library of Congress CONGRESS, GOV web site.

2024 118th Congress, 2nd Session Public Laws 118-35 to 118-274 Sorted in Public Law order (HTML format)

Sorted in U.S. Code order (HTML format)

2023 118th Congress, 1st Session Public Laws 118-1 to 118-34 Sorted in Public Law order (HTML format)

> Sorted in U.S. Code order (HTML format)

Prior tables can be found here.

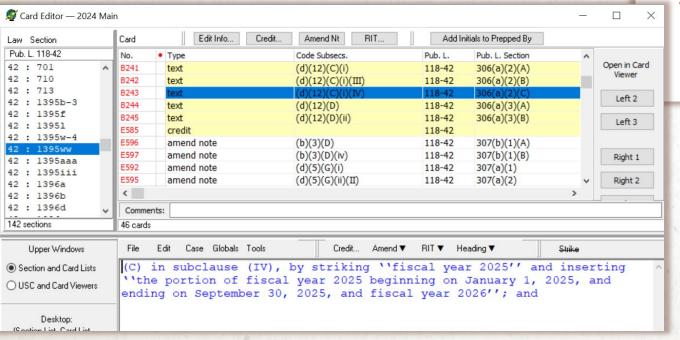
For editorial changes in Code classifications of earlier laws made in the process of classifying laws enacted during the 118th Congress, 2nd Session, see the table here.

For editorial changes in Code classifications of earlier laws made in the process of classifying laws enacted during the 118th Congress, 1st Session, see the table here.

6	182	nt new	118-186	3	2637
6	182	nt new	118-186	4	2637
44	3501	nt new	118-187		2638
5	101	nt new	118-188	1	2644
5	3304		118-188	2(a)(1)	2644
5	3302		118-188	2(a)(2)(A)(i)(I)	2645
5	3330a		118-188	2(a)(2)(A)(i)(II)	2645
5	9810		118-188	2(a)(2)(A)(ii)	2645
22	3008		118-188	2(a)(2)(B)	2645
22	6918		118-188	2(a)(2)(C)	2645
42	17013		118-188	2(a)(2)(D)	2645
5	3304		118-188	2(a)(2)(E)	2645
5	3304	nt new	118-188	2(b)	<u> 2646</u>
5	3304		118-188	3	2646
5	3304	nt new	118-188	5	2649
5	3304	nt new	118-188	7	<u> 2651</u>
21	802		118-189	1	<u> 2652</u>
31	1101	nt new	118-190	1	<u> 2653</u>
31	1121		118-190	2(a)(1)	<u> 2653</u>
31	1101	prec	118-190	2(a)(2)	<u> 2654</u>
31	1116		118-190	2(b)	<u> 2654</u>
31	1122		118-190	3	<u> 2654</u>
31	1120		118-190	4	<u> 2655</u>
31	1115		118-190	5	<u> 2656</u>
31	1118	repealed	118-190	6(a)	<u> 2656</u>
31	1119	repealed	118-190	6(a)	<u> 2656</u>
31	9704		118-190	6(b)	<u> 2656</u>
31	1101	prec	118-190	6(c)	<u> 2656</u>
5	306		118-190	7(a)	<u> 2656</u>
31	1116		118-190	7(b)	<u> 2656</u>
7	2201	nt new	118-191	1	<u>2658</u>
7	22791	new	118-191	2	<u>2658</u>
5	101	nt new	118-192	1	2660
5	8332		118-192	2(a)	2660
38	719		118-192	2(b)	<u>2661</u>
42	5101	nt new	118-193	1	<u>2662</u>
42	5106		118-193	2(a)	<u>2662</u>
5	301	nt new	118-195		<u>2669</u>
38	101	nt new	118-196	1	<u>2671</u>
38	5101		118-196	2	<u>2671</u>

TEXT PREPARATION

- Focus is on bill
- Isolating and extracting individual provisions of the bill



Pub. L. 118-42 Mar. 9, 2024 138 Stat. 417

H.R. 4366—393

42/1395ww/d/12/C/i/III	(B) in subclause (III), by inserting "and the portion of fiscal year 2025 beginning on October 1, 2024, and ending on December 31, 2024" after "through 2024"; and				
42/1395ww/d/12/C/i/IV	(C) in subclause (IV), by striking "fiscal year 2025" and inserting "the portion of fiscal year 2025 beginning on January 1, 2025, and ending on September 30, 2025, and fiscal year 2026"; and				
42/1395ww/d/12/D/i	(3) in subparagraph (D)— (A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting "or during the portion of fiscal year 2025 beginning on October 1, 2024, and ending on December 31, 2024" after "through 2024"; and				
42/1395ww/d/12/D/ii	(B) in clause (ii), by inserting "and the portion of fiscal year 2025 beginning on October 1, 2024, and ending on December 31, 2024" after "through 2024".				
42/1395ww nt new	(b) Implementation.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may implement the provisions of, including the amendments made by, this section by program instruction or otherwise.				

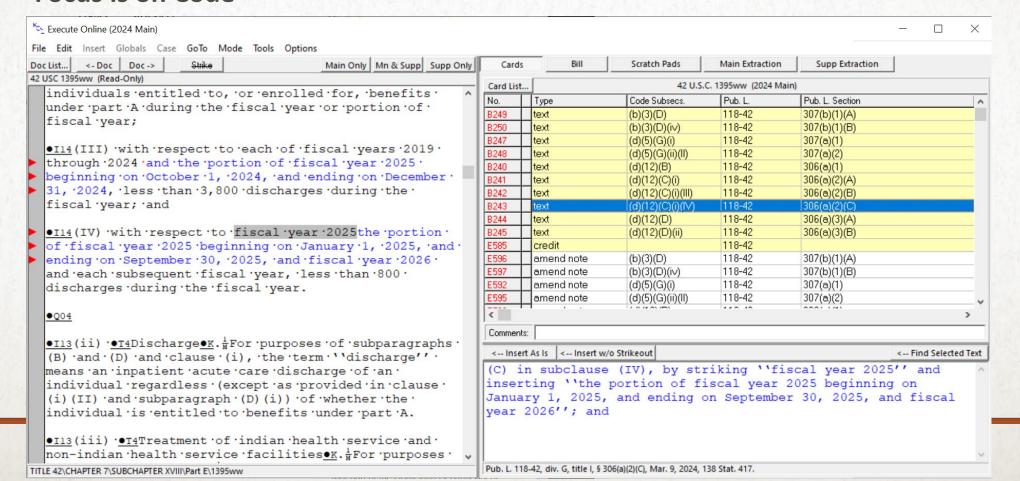
- Preparing bill text to be integrated into the Code
 - Proofreading and formatting
 - Translations
- Drafting source credits and editorial notes

EDITORIAL NOTES

- Notes drafted by OLRC editors to assist users of the Code
- Common types of editorial notes
 - References in Text: reference needing explanation or Code citation
 - Codification: information about how text was edited or context of section
 - Prior Provisions: section formerly in current location no longer exists
 - Constitutionality: provision in section held unconstitutional
 - Amendment: explains changes made by public laws in source credit

TEXT EXECUTION

- Separate step from text preparation
- Focus is on Code



PUBLICATION

- Online throughout session of Congress
- Around 30-35 updates per session
- Available as download in various formats

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Popular Name Tool

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Current Release Point

Public Law 118-209 (12/23/2024), except 118-159

Each update of the United States Code is a release point. This page provides downloadable files for the current release point. All files are current through Public Law 118-209 (12/23/2024), except 118-159. Titles in bold have been changed since the last release point.

A <u>User Guide</u> and the <u>USLM Schema and stylesheet</u> are provided for the United States Code in XML. A <u>stylesheet</u> is provided for the XHTML. PCC files are text files containing GPO photocomposition codes (i.e., locators).

Information about the currency of United States Code titles is available on the Currency page. Files for prior release points are available on the Prior Release Points page. Older materials are available on the Annual Historical Archives page.

All titles in the format selected compressed into a zip archive.

[XML] [XHTML] [PCC] [PDF]

XMLI IXHTMLI IPCCI IPDFI

XMLÍ XHTMLÍ PCCÍ PDFÍ XHTML] [PCC] [PDF]

IXMLI IXHTMLI IPCCI [PDF]

[XML] [XHTML] [PCC] [PDF]

Individual Titles
Title 1 - General Provisions *
Title 2 - The Congress
Title 3 - The President *
Title 4 - Flag and Seal, Seat of Government, and the States *
Title 5 - Government Organization and Employees *
Appendix

Title 6 - Domestic Security Title 7 - Agriculture

Prior Release Points

Each update of the United States Code is a release point. Downloadable files for the current release point are available on the main Download page. Older materials are available on the Annual Historical Archives page.

Public Law 118-158 (12/21/2024), affecting titles 1, 5, 6, 7, 18, 42, 43.

Public Law 118-157 (12/17/2024), affecting titles 30, 33, 40, 42, 49.

Public Law 118-151 (12/17/2024), affecting title 35.

Public Law 118-150 (12/12/2024), affecting titles 26, 31, 42.

Public Law 118-145 (12/11/2024), affecting titles 16, 20, 31, 42.

Public Law 118-136 (11/25/2024), with additional updates to the Court Rules (12/01/2024), affecting titles 11A, 16, 18A, 28, 28A, 31, 38, 42.

Public Law 118-107 (11/21/2024), affecting title 42.

Public Law 118-106 (10/04/2024), affecting title 52.

Public Law 118-105 (10/02/2024), affecting titles 5, 6, 15, 18, 38, 40, 42.

Public Law 118-90 (09/30/2024), affecting titles 1, 2, 6, 7, 16, 18, 21, 22, 31, 38, 42, 47, 48, 49.

Public Law 118-82 (09/20/2024), affecting title 30.

Public Law 118-78 (07/30/2024), affecting titles 18, 28, 34, 41.

Public Law 118-71 (07/25/2024), affecting titles 5, 18, 20.

Public Law 118-70 (07/12/2024), affecting titles 15, 22, 42, 50.

Public Law 118-66 (07/02/2024), affecting titles 42, 50.

Public Law 118-65 (06/17/2024), affecting titles 10, 34, 49.

Public Law 118-64 (05/24/2024), affecting titles 6, 26, 42, 45, 49, 51.

Public Law 118-64 (05/24/2024), except 118-63, affecting title 34.

Public Law 118-62 (05/13/2024), affecting titles 26, 42.

Public Law 118-59 (05/07/2024), affecting title 18.

PUBLICATION

Print after end of each session of Congress

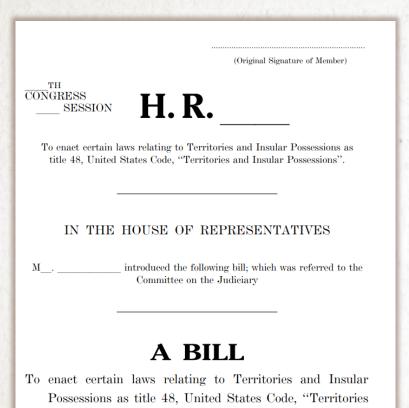
- Extensive review by both attorneys and print staff
- Collaboration with GPO

Why do the books take so long?

- Painstaking review cycle
- Work can't start until end of session
- GPO priorities



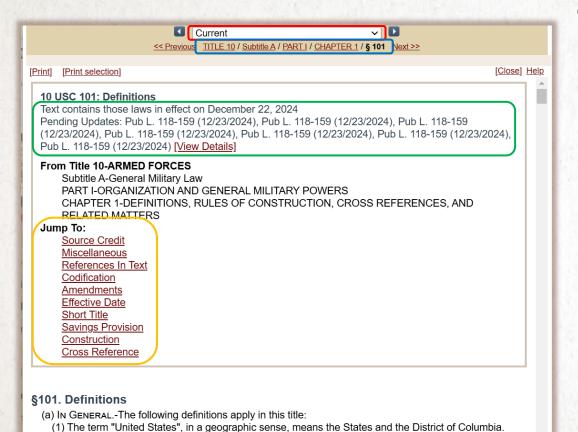
POSITIVE LAW CODIFICATION



and Insular Possessions".

- Reorganization and restatement of existing law
- Enacted by Congress as a title of the U.S. Code
- Becomes legal evidence of the law; underlying statutes are repealed
- Goals
 - Making the law easier to read and understand
 - Improving organizational structure of the law
 - Eliminating obsolete provisions
 - Correcting technical errors

No change in meaning or effect of the law



[(2) Repealed. Pub. L. 109–163, div. A, title X, §1057(a)(1), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3440 .]
(3) The term "possessions" includes the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Guano

(B) the commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and

(4) The term "armed forces" means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps. Space Force. and Coast

Islands, so long as they remain possessions, but does not include any Commonwealth.

Guard.

(5) The term "uniformed services" means-

(C) the commissioned come of the Dublic Health Service

(A) the armed forces:

Section

Version of Code being viewed; defaults to current but can change to prior publication via dropdown menu

Hierarchy of section; larger units are viewable by clicking

Currency information

- Linked to classification table
- Entries in table not yet executed appear as Pending Updates
- Date shown is day before date of enactment of law with Pending Updates; otherwise day before today's date

Jump links to navigate to credit and notes below section

Currency

Classification Table

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2024

118th Congress, 2nd Session Public Laws 118-35 to 118-274 Sorted in Public Law order

(HTML format)

Sorted in U.S. Code order (HTML format)

2023

118th Congress, 1st Session Public Laws 118-1 to 118-34 Sorted in Public Law order (HTML format)

Sorted in U.S. Code order (HTML format)

Code text

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The United States Code Online is current through Public Law 118-209 (12/24/2024), except for Public Law 118-159.

The currency date for each section of the United States Code is displayed above the text of the section. If the section has been affected by any laws enacted after that date, those laws will appear in a list of "Pending Updates". If there are no pending updates listed, the section is current as shown.

When present, the list of pending updates provides the public law numbers of each law affecting the section in some way—either the text of the section, a statutory note set out under the section, or a table of contents preceding the section. Following the list of pending updates is a "View Details" link that provides more specific information about how each law has affected the section.

The Classification Tables can also be used to find the latest laws affecting the Code. The Classification Tables indicate which sections of the Code have been affected by recently enacted laws.

The text of public laws listed as Pending Updates or appearing in the Classification Tables can be found in a number of sources, such as the Government Publishing Office's govinfo.gov or the Library of Congress's CONGRESS.GOV database.

For an explanation of the differences between the version of the United States Code as posted for searching and browsing by default on this website and the versions of the Code based on the database used for the official print version, see the About the United States Code and This Website page. The currency dates of prior versions of the United States Code in print since 1994 can be found by using the "Search in version" feature on the Advanced Search page.

Finding a Section: Popular Name Tool

Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937



Start with Popular Name Tool to look up Act name

Find Act name

- Scroll through list
- Use alphabetical jump link
- Ctrl+F in browser

Click link for the law to go to Table III

Finding a Section: Table III

Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937



The Table III Tool enables you to browse the United States Code Table III. For printing purposes, the PDF file is data processing XML files are available in bulk and broken into acts. A detailed explanation of the Table is located

75th Cong. ↑	<u>50 Stat.</u> ↑	Sept. 1, <u>1937</u> ↑
<u>1937:895</u>	1937:896(pdf)	<u>1937:897</u>

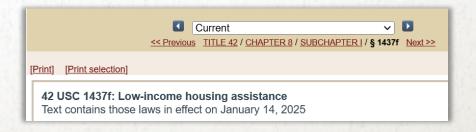
Act Section	Stat. Pg.	United States Code					
Act Section	Stat. Fy.	Title	Section	Status			
1		42	<u>1437 nt</u>				
2		42	<u>1437</u>				
3		42	<u>1437a</u>				
4		42	<u>1437b</u>				
5		42	<u>1437c</u>				
5A		42	<u>1437c-1</u>				
6		42	<u>1437d</u>				
7		42	<u>1437e</u>				
8		42	<u>1437f</u>				
9		42	<u>1437g</u>				
10		42	<u>1437h</u>				
11		42	<u>1437i</u>				

Table III indicates where Act sections are classified to the Code

Permanent version of Classification Table

Also gives Statutes at Large page if available and status of section, such as repealed

Code section is link to section text



Finding a Section: Table III

118-42

Get Document



TABLE III TOOL [CURRENT THROUGH 118-78 (JULY 30, 2024)]

The Table III Tool enables you to browse the United States Code Table III. For printing purposes, the <u>PDF file</u> is recommended. For data processing XML files are available in bulk and broken into acts. A detailed explanation of the Table is located here.

Congresses	Statutes at Large Volumes						Years		
1789	1790	1791	1792	1793	1794	1795	1796	1797	1798
1799	1800	1801	1802	1803	1804	1805	1806	1807	1808
1809	1810	1811	1812	1813	1814	1815	1816	1817	1818
1819	1820	1821	1822	1823	1824	1825	1826	1827	1828
1829	1830	1831	1832	1833	1834	1835	1836	1837	1838
1839	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848
1849	1850	1851	1852	1853	1854	1855	1856	1857	1858
1859	1860	1861	1862	1863	1864	1865	1866	1867	1868
1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878
1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888
1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898
1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1999 2009 2019	2000 2010 2020	2001 2011 2021	2002 2012 2022	2003 2013 2023	2004 2014 2024	2005 2015	<u>2006</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>2007</u> <u>2017</u>	2008 2018

Browsable by Congress, Statutes at Large volume, or year

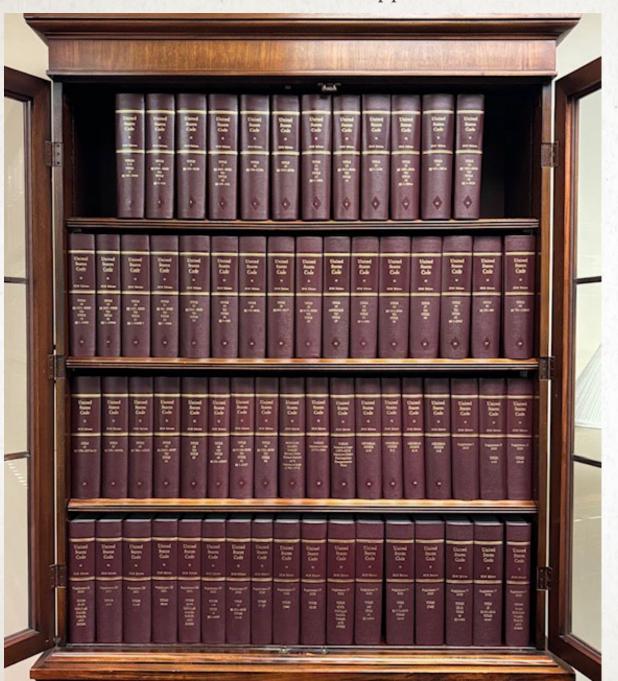
Can enter public law number directly if known



REVIEW

- Introduce the Office of the Law Revision Counsel & its functions
 - Maintain and update the U.S. Code
 - Draft titles for enactment as positive law
- Describe process of updating the U.S. Code
 - Classification
 - Text preparation
 - Text execution
 - Publication
- Introduce positive law codification
- Explore features of U.S. Code website: uscode.house.gov

Full 2018 Main Edition with Supplements I to V



THANK YOU!

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