Federal Administrative and Legislative History Research
List of Resources and Selected Alternatives
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For research guides on the topic, check out the University of Washington Gallagher Law Library’s guides on U.S. Administrative Law Research (http://lib.law.washington.edu/ref/adminus.html) and Federal Legislative History (http://lib.law.washington.edu/ref/fedlegishist.html)

The Assignment

Google http://www.google.com/
Great for finding guides on the process of doing legislative history or other research guides. You won’t usually find a reliable legislative history on topic.

➢ Try other search engines if you do not find what you’re looking for. They utilize different algorithms to produce search results, so you may more easily find what you’re looking for. Some alternatives:
  • Yahoo! http://search.yahoo.com/
  • Windows Live Search http://www.live.com/
  • Ask http://www.ask.com/
➢ If you are specifically looking for a research guide, try searching:
  • Cornell Law Library’s Legal Research Engine http://library.lawschool.cornell.edu/guides/researchengine.asp

Federal Legislative History

United States Code Congressional and Administrative News
Reprints most important House, Senate and conference reports
  At Your Library (catalog search)
  • SU http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research
  • UW http://lib.law.washington.edu/
  • KCLL http://www.kcll.org/
Westlaw USCCAN (see scope note for coverage. Some documents only back to 2000)

Congressional Record
Transcript of house and senate floor debates
  At Your Library (catalog search)
  • SU http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research
  • UW http://lib.law.washington.edu/
  LexisNexis (back to 1985)
  Westlaw CR (back to 1985)
Thomas http://thomas.loc.gov/home/r110query.html (back to 1989)
Congressional Research Service Reports
The Congressional Research Service researches issues for members of congress and produce reports and studies. For information on obtaining these reports, see the University of Washington Gallagher Law Library’s guide on Congressional Research Service Reports http://lib.law.washington.edu/ref/crs.htm

How a Bill Becomes a Law
http://www.lexisnexis.com/help/CU/The_Legislative_Process/How_a_Bill_Becomes_Law.htm


Thomas http://thomas.loc.gov/
Includes free federal legislative information such as bills, resolutions and committee reports

CIS Index
Index to all of the Congressional working papers beginning from 1970
At Your Library (catalog search)
  • SU http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research
  • UW http://lib.law.washington.edu/
  LexisNexis Congressional Universe (Contact a reference librarian for access information)

Sources of Compiled Legislative Histories by Nancy Johnson
At Your Library (catalog search)
  • SU http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research
  • UW http://lib.law.washington.edu/
  • KCLL http://www.kcll.org/
  Hein Online (Contact a reference librarian for access information)

Statutes at Large
Look up Public Law version of an act - includes references to hearings and the Congressional Record
At Your Library (catalog search)
  • SU http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research
  • UW http://lib.law.washington.edu/
  • KCLL http://www.kcll.org/
  Hein Online (Contact a reference librarian for access information)
  LexisNexis
  Westlaw
Federal Regulations

*Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)*
At Your Library (catalog search)
- SU [http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research](http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research)
Hein Online (Contact a reference librarian for access information)
LexisNexis
Westlaw CFR

*USCS Index and Finding Aids to CFR *
At Your Library (catalog search)
- SU [http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research](http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research)

- Westlaw - Select “Administrative Code” link near the bottom of the left menu if you already have a U.S.C. section. Or, if you are searching the CFR database, select the “RegulationsPlus Index” link on the upper right corner.
- West’s Code of Federal Regulations General Index
At Your Library (catalog search)
- SU [http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research](http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research)
- Parallel Table of Authorities and Rules (Located in the Index volume at the end of the CFR)
At Your Library (catalog search)
- SU [http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research](http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research)

*Federal Register (FR)*
At Your Library (catalog search)
- SU [http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research](http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research)
Hein Online (Contact a reference librarian for access information)
LexisNexis
Westlaw FR
List of CFR Sections Affected (LSA)  http://www.gpoaccess.gov/lsa/index.html
Lists Federal Register pages of new or proposed rules that may affect the CFR.
   At Your Library (catalog search)
   • SU  http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research
   • UW  http://lib.law.washington.edu/
   • KCLL  http://www.kcll.org/

Legal Trac (Contact a reference librarian for access information)
An efficient way to find legal periodical articles. Print versions are known as Current Law Index and Legal Resource Index.
   At Your Library (catalog search)
   • SU  http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/research
   • UW  http://lib.law.washington.edu/
   • KCLL  http://www.kcll.org/

Additional Resources

➢ Administrative Procedures Act, 5 USC §§ 551 et seq.
➢ ABA Section of Administrative Law & Regulatory Practice  http://www.abanet.org/adminlaw/

The following resources can be found by searching your local law library’s catalog (some libraries may not have all resources or may have an older edition available):

➢ Federal Administrative Procedure Sourcebook 3rd (American Bar Association, Section of Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice 2000)
➢ Administrative Law 2d by Alfred C. Aman, Jr. and William T. Mayton (West 2001)
➢ Administrative Law 3rd by Bernard Schwartz (Little Brown 1991)
➢ Understanding Administrative Law 4th by William F. Fox, Jr. (Lexis 2000)
➢ Administrative Law and Process in a Nutshell 5th by Ernest Gellhorn and Ronald M. Levin (West 2006)
➢ Pike and Fischer Administrative Law 3rd edited by John W. Willis (Pike & Fischer 1989-)