

Bills into Laws: the Legislative Process

Subject Research Guide

Contained within this document are selected resources at the Monmouth University Library, useful for locating information about the legislative process. For additional resources, search the Library catalog or call the reference desk at 732.571.3438.

Finding Books

Visit <http://millenium.monmouth.edu/search.html> to find books in the Monmouth University Online Library Catalog.

Reference Books

REF KF4959 .Z9 J66 2000 *How Our Laws Are Made*

REF JK1001 .K4 1972 *The American Legislative Process*

Search Tips

Keyword searching: For background information or specific legislation, do a keyword search using such terms as “welfare to work” or “no child left behind act.”

Finding Journal Articles

Visit <http://library.monmouth.edu/researchdb/researchdb.php> to locate databases and journal articles available at Monmouth University, some of which include:

- CQ Weekly—use for tracking legislative history behind an issue
- CQ Researcher—use for understanding the context of specific legislation
- CQ Congress—analyzes how and when specific legislation was discussed in U.S. Congress
- Autographics—search for specific U.S. government documents, 1976+

Web Sites

THOMAS—Use for finding legislative information. Search for bills beginning from 93rd congress to the present (1973-present). Search for public laws by number and committee reports. <http://thomas.loc.gov/>

GPO Access—Find free U.S. government information at all levels from all agencies and branches, including the legislative branch. Search bills by congress for the last ten years. <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/index.html>

FirstGov—Use the U.S. government's official web portal to locate the online versions of many government documents without needing to know its agency of origin <http://www.firstgov.gov/>

"How our laws are made" an online link to the publication at <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/lawsmade.toc.html>

Need more help?

- Access the Monmouth University Library Page at <http://library.monmouth.edu/>
- Access the Research Help Page at <http://library.monmouth.edu/help/help.php>
- Use our Ask-a-Librarian service at <http://library.monmouth.edu/help/ask.php>
- See the Library's hours at <http://library.monmouth.edu/about/about.php#hours>
- Call the reference desk at 732.571.3438.

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