

Public Laws

<http://www.gpo.gov/nara/nara005.html>

Public Laws contain laws signed by the President. Laws signed by the President become known as “slip laws”. More specifically, they can either be public or private laws. At the end of every session of Congress “slip laws” are compiled into the Statutes at Large and are known as “session laws”. Every six years, the session laws are incorporated into the *United States Code*, the codification of all general and permanent laws of the United States.

File Formats:	ASCII text and PDF
Availability:	104 th Congress (1995-96) forward
Fielded Search:	104 th Congress forward
Browse:	104 th Congress forward

Special Application Features

- * To browse a current catalog of public laws available via *GPO Access*, choose the appropriate Congress from <www.gpo.gov/nara/nara005.html>. If a public law is not listed in the catalog, it is not available electronically via *GPO Access* at that time.
- * In the PDF files of the public laws online via *GPO Access*, the slip laws are displayed exactly as they appear in the official printed version. Therefore, all side notes appear in the margins in their original format. In the ASCII text files, however, the side notes appear in double angle brackets within the body of the text. For example: <<**NOTE: District of Columbia Management Restoration Act of 1999.**>>.

Unique Searching Instructions

- * When searching by public law number, the phrase “public law” should not be abbreviated. For example: “**public law 107-1**”.
- * When searching by Statutes at Large citation, include the volume number, the abbreviation “stat”, and the number of that particular law as assigned in the Statutes at Large. For example: “**110 stat 1345**”.
- * When searching by U.S. Code citation, include the title number, abbreviation “usc”, and section number. For example: “**15 USC 1024**”.
- * For specific searches, consult the helpful hints at <www.gpo.gov/gpoaccess/help/hints/plaws.html>.

United States Code

<http://www.gpo.gov/congress/cong013.html>

The *United States Code* is the codification by subject matter of the general and permanent laws of the United States. The Office of the Law Revision Counsel, House of Representatives publishes the *U.S. Code* every six years. The most recent publication was in 2000. To present the most current information, the Office of the Law Revision Counsel also releases an annual supplement to the *U.S. Code*. Following each printed edition, *GPO Access* provides access to these annual supplements of the *U.S. Code*.

File Formats:	ASCII text
Availability:	2000 and 1994 editions plus yearly supplements
Fielded Search:	1994 forward
Browse:	Latest edition/supplement

Special Application Features

- * A list of *U.S. Code* titles based on broad subject terms is available in the helpful hints at www.gpo.gov/gpoaccess/help/hints/uscode.html#titles.

Unique Searching Instructions

- * When searching by *U.S. Code* citation, include the title number, the abbreviation “usc”, and a section number. For example: “**42usc1204**”.
- * When searching by public law number, the phrase “public law” should be abbreviated. For example: “**pub. l. 104-45**” or “**pub l 104-45**”.
- * When searching by Statutes at Large citation, include the volume number, the abbreviation “stat,” and the number of that particular law as assigned in the Statutes at Large. For example: “**110 stat 1345**”.
- * In print, the *U.S. Code* includes the Popular Names Index. The index lists acts by their short title and the public law numbers that the act was assigned. To search by popular name, include the phrase “popular name” and a keyword. For example, to find the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, enter “**popular name**” and **brady**.
- * To search for *U.S. Code* subsections, use an asterisk (*) with the citation. For example: **2USC661***.
- * For specific searches, consult the helpful hints at www.gpo.gov/gpoaccess/help/hints/uscode.html.