# Library of Congress

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# Congress.gov

**Legislative Data and Transparency Conference** 



# Congress.gov – Overview

- Congress.gov is the official website for U.S. federal legislative information, committed to serving Congress and the public
- Development is managed by the Library's Office of the Chief Information Officer
- Collaboration within the Library of Congress between OCIO, CRS, and LAW
- Development started in 2012, with first beta release in September 2012



# **Congress.gov – Development**

- Project uses Agile approach with a release every three weeks
  - 21 releases since last year's conference
- Frequent collaboration with major users and data partners including Senate, House, GPO, CRS staff
- Each release includes fixes or enhancements based on user feedback
- Removed beta label Nov. 2014
- Replaced THOMAS, which retired July 5, 2016



# Congress.gov – July 2018

### House: Legislation with Actions Related to Committees | Strong Benade This table cumulates bills and resolutions by actions related to committees and subcommittees Show: 115th Congress (2017-2018) . Committees Subcommittees Committees - 115th Congress (2017-2018) Committees annear on this table only after their tecisions activities have been received from the official House and Senate lenetative data systems. Committee names limit to committee profile pages. Numbers in each column link to results lists for "All Legislation" or the specified committee-related activity Agriculture. Appropriations Armed Services Education and the Worldness Energy and Commerce Financial Berylces Foliago Attains Homeland Security House Administration Intelligence (Permanent Belec Natural Resources Oversight and Government Reform Science Space, and Technology Small Business Transportation and infrastructural

### July 2018

Enhancement – Legislation Advanced Search Form – "Legislative Interest" House Committee Activity

- <u>Legislative Interest</u>, a House committee-related activity, may now be searched from the Legislation Advanced Search form.
- To search, select the Legislative Interest checkbox from the Committees section of the form either on its own or in combination with other committee-related activity options: Any, Referred to, Hearings by, Markup by, Reported by, Reported Original Measure, or Discharged from.
- Limit the search to one or multiple committees using the Choose House Committees or Choose Senate Committees buttons below the checkboxes.
- Example From the Legislation Advanced Search form, a user may retrieve 115th <u>Congress legislation of Legislative Interest to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.</u>

Enhancement – Legislation with Actions Related to House Committees Browse – "Legislative Interest" Column

- The <u>Legislation with Actions Related to House Committees</u> browse report now has a column for <u>Legislative Interest</u> data.
- Columns in the report All Legislation, Originated, Referred, Hearings, Markups, Reported, Discharged, and Legislative Interest – each contain data for legislation on which a committee has acted. Committees only display in the report after their legislative activities have been received from the official House legislative data system. Numbers in each column link to results lists for the specified committeerelated activity.
- Example The 113th Congress report displays 20 items of Legislative Interest to the House Homeland Security committee. Selecting the link in the Legislative Interest column displays the 20 bills in a results list.

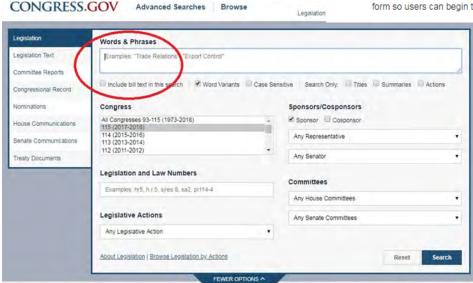


# Congress.gov – August 2018, Part 2

### August 2018, Part 2

### Enhancement - Search forms - Words & Phrases search box improvements

- A label has been added to identify the <u>Words & Phrases search box</u> on the homepage search forms.
- The size of the box has been increased to make it easier to view long search queries.
- Cursor now defaults to the Words & Phrases search box on the Legislation search form so users can begin typing keywords without needing to click into the box.





# Congress.gov – September 2018

### **CONGRESS.GOV**

There has been a change to the result set for your saved search.

Go to your saved search titled: Multiple Currency Search

Description: Cryptocurrency OR "Virtual Currency" OR bitcoir

Created: 12/18/2017

### Results with Changes:

1 item with recent changes in your saved search:

S.3486 - Venezuela Humanitarian Relief, Reconstruction, and Actions: 09/24/2018: Read twice and referred to the Commit

Committees: Senate - Foreign Relations Sponsor: Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]

### Congress.gov Enhancements

Below is a timeline of releases that incorporated new content and improved features to Congress.gov.

Expand All | Collapse All

### October 2018

September 2018

Enhancement – Legislation Saved Search Alerts – Choose which changes to track – public release

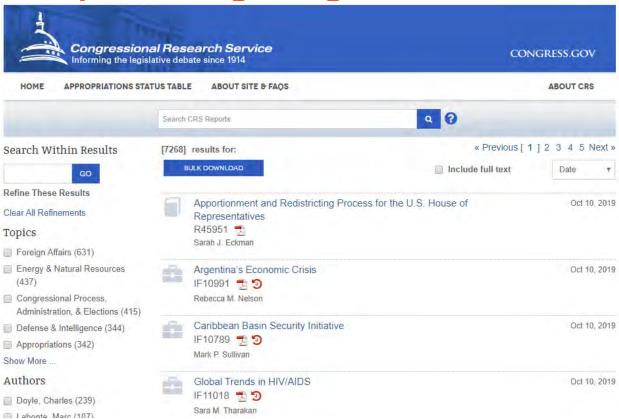
- Alert emails list new search results and show changed results for bills and resolutions.
- When setting up an alert for searches from the legislation search form or advanced search form, users can choose which changes to track for inclusion in alerts.
- Saved Searches and Alerts management pages display Edit Alert links for legislation alerts to update track changes preferences.
- Options for tracking changes to bills and resolutions include cosponsors, actions, related bills, amendments, committees, titles, summaries, subjects and CBO cost estimates

Enhancement - Public Access to CRS Reports - Link from Congress.gov homepage

- A link to the new <u>CRS Reports public site</u> is on the Congress.gov homepage under the Current Legislative Activities section.
- Congress.gov footer includes a link to the CRS Reports public site under the Resources header.

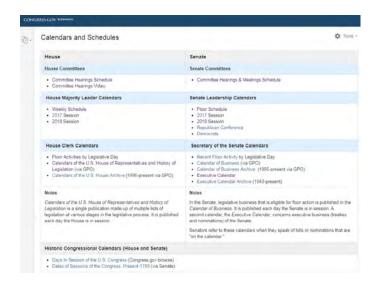


# **CRSreports.Congress.gov**





# Congress.gov – October 2018



### Congress.gov Enhancements

Below is a timeline of releases that incorporated new content and improved features to Congress.gov.

Expand All | Collapse All

### October 2018

Enhancement – Advanced Legislation Search – Committee selection pages list all names

 When you choose all Congresses on the <u>Advanced Legislation Search</u>, the committee selection pages show committee name changes.

Enhancement – Search Results Navigation – Page through all amendments for a specific bill

- From the Amendments tab of a bill with more than one amendment (for example, HR2810), click on an amendment in the list to see the full amendment record.
- Use arrows to move to next or previous amendment without needing to return to the list.
- Use Back to Amendments link to return to the list on the amendments tab of the bill.

Enhancement - Congressional Record Index Navigation - Page through all entries

- Use arrows to move to next or previous entry in the <u>Congressional Record index</u> without needing to return to the main index page.
- Use Back to Results link to return to your search results, or to the main index page if you are browsing.

New - Actions and Cosponsors by Date - Browse page lists newly added information

- Find it on the Browse list under Legislation by Number.
- Click on totals in each cell to see legislation with newly added information.

Enhancement – Legislation Advanced Search – Find words across all Actions or within same Action

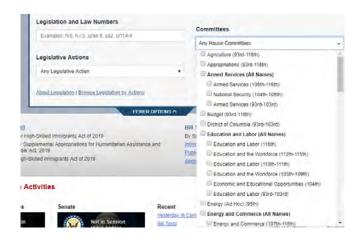
- Use the <u>Search in Actions/Status Text</u> box to find words or action codes across all actions in a measure.
- Use the link below the box to limit your search to a single action within a specified date range. Words searched must be in the same action on the date or within the date range you selected.



Enhancement - Updated Calendars and Schedule Page

Committee schedule links added for House and Senate committees.

# Congress.gov – November 2018



### November 2018

Enhancement – Legislation and Committee Report Search Forms – Committee selection lists show all names

When you choose all Congresses on the homepage <u>Legislation Search</u>
 <u>Form</u> or <u>Committee Report Search Form</u>, the committee selection lists
 show committee name changes throughout the years.

Enhancement - Legislation Search Results - Subcommittee filter

 Legislation <u>search results</u> for single Congress searches display a subcommittee filter to narrow your results to measures with activity, such as hearings or markups, by a particular subcommittee.

Enhancement - Legislation - Search by State of Sponsor or Cosponsor

 From the <u>search bar</u> or <u>command line search</u>, you can use <u>field labels</u> to search for legislation sponsored or cosponsored by members from a particular state.

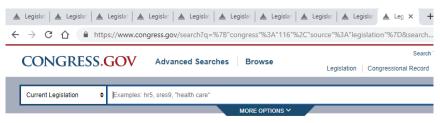


# **Congress.gov – November 2018**

Committee	<b></b>
louse Subcommittee	
griculture	
otechnology, Horticulture, and Research	[9]
mmodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit	[26]
nservation and Forestry	[13]
eneral Farm Commodities and Risk anagement	[20]
estock and Foreign Agriculture	[7]
Shov	/ more ~
enate Subcommittee	
ppropriations	
griculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug	[2]
Administration, and Related Agencies	
epartments of Labor, Health and Human	[2]
Services, and Education, and Related Agencies	
nergy and Natural Resources	
ational Parks	[6]
blic Lands, Forests, and Mining	[1]
ater and Power	[1]



# Congress.gov – December 2018



### December 2018

### Enhancement - Search - Track multiple searches within a user session

 Open up to 10 browser tabs to conduct multiple searches and your search results, including next and previous navigation, are retained for each search for up to one hour.

### Backend - Preparation for 116th Congress

 Site updates to add the 116th Congress completed in development environment.

## Backend – Changes to ETL (extract/transform/load) programs to use govinfo as GPO source

 Completed development work for all collections to ingest GPO data from govinfo.gov.



# Congress.gov – January 2019



### January 2019

Enhancement - Committee Schedule - House and Senate Hearings and Meetings

- A unified calendar listing House and Senate hearings and other meetings can be viewed by week or day.
- <u>Detail page</u> for each event includes committee name and website, date and location
  of event, and if available, witness list, video of proceedings and links to supporting
  documentation.

Enhancement – Legislation Advanced Search – Search by State of Sponsor or Cosponsor

 From the <u>Sponsor</u> and <u>Cosponsor</u> selection pages, you can easily search for legislation sponsored or cosponsored by members from a particular state or territory.

Enhancement - Policy Areas - Scope Notes Added

 Policy Area scope notes describe the subject matter of measures assigned to each policy area.

Enhancement - Homepage Search Forms - Filters Open by default

Filters now display by default on homepage search form <u>results pages</u>.

Enhancement - Homepage Search Forms - Reset Added

 An extra Reset button has been added to the top of each <u>homepage</u> search form to make it easier to clear previous search parameters from the form.

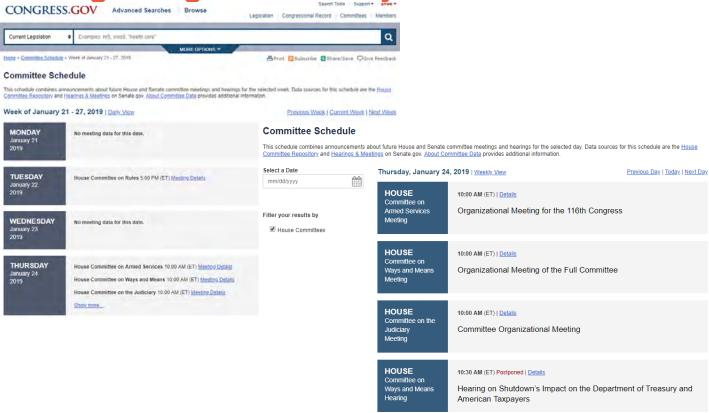
### Enhancement - Browse Pages - Sort Order Changes

Default sort order is Latest Action - Newest to Oldest on <u>Bills Introduced by Request</u>, <u>Bills Introduced as Private Legislation</u>, and <u>Actions on Legislation</u> Browse Reports.



Witness Truth in Testimony (PDF)

# Congress.gov – January 2019





# **Congress.gov – February 2019**

### February 2019

Enhancement - Chamber of Origin filter - Open by default

 The Chamber of Origin filter on <u>search results</u> has been moved higher on the page and is open by default so you can quickly limit your results to measures from one chamber.

Hide Filters ^ Show Tracker ^ 1-106	0 of 469 100	0 per page ▼ Sort by Number - Descendii ▼ View Compact ▼	
Limit Your Search Check all		Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Humanitarian Assistance and Security at the Southern Border Act, 2019  Sponsor: Rep   Jowey Nits M [D-NY-17] (Introduced 06/21/2019) Cosponsors: (0)	
Legislation  Congress	[469]	Committees: House - Appropriations, Budget Latest Action: 07/01/2019 Became Public Law No: 116-26. (All Actions)	
Check all  116 (2019-2020)  115 (2017-2018)	[26] [443]	2. <u>H.R.3151</u> — 116th Congress (2019-2020)  Taxpayer First Act  Sponsor: <u>Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5]</u> (Introduced 06/06/2019) Cosponsors: (28)  Committees: House - Ways and Means, Budget, Financial Services	
Chamber of Origin		Latest Action: 07/01/2019 Became Public Law No: 116-25. (All Actions)	
House Senate	[318]	3. <u>H.R.2379</u> — 116th Congress (2019-2020)  To reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program.  Sponsor: <u>Rep. Pascrell, Bill, Jr. [D-NJ-9]</u> (Introduced 04/29/2019) Cosponsors: (26)	
Bill Type	<b></b>	Committees: House - Judiciary  Latest Action: 05/23/2019 Became Public Law No: 116-18. (All Actions)	
Status of Legislation Subject — Policy Area	<b>+</b>	H.R.2157 — 116th Congress (2019-2020)     Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019	
		Sponsor: Rep. Lowey, Nita M. [D-NY-17] (Introduced 04/09/2019) Cosponsors: (0)	



# Congress.gov - March 2019, Part 1

### March 2019, Part 1

Enhancement - House Bills to be Considered - Link from Homepage

o On the homepage, under the House of Representatives section of Current Legislative Activities, find a link to Bills to be Considered on the House Floor.

### **Current Legislative Activities** 116th Congress (2019-2020)

### House of Representatives



Next Meeting: July 5, 2019 at 9:00 AM EDT

Previous Meeting: July 2, 2019

### House Links

House Floor Activities

Committee Hearings Video Communications to the House

Bills to be Considered

### Senate



Next Meeting: July 5, 2019 at 11:47 AM EDT

Previous Meeting: July 2, 2019

### Senate Links

On the Senate Floor

Communications to the Senate

Nominations

Treaty Documents

### Recent

Yesterday in Congress

Bill Texts

Committee Schedule

Calendars and Schedules

### BILLS TO BE CONSIDERED on the House Hoor

### Text of Bills for the Week of Jul. 8, 2019

First Published: June 18, 2019 at 03:08 PM Last Updated: June 28, 2019 at 02:58 PM



[PDF] [XML]

The following are links to the text of legislation scheduled for consideration during the week of Jul. 8. 2019. For the complete schedule, please visit the Majority Leader's site.

### Items that may be considered pursuant to a rule

H.R. 2500 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020

Updated 06/20/2019 at 11:58 AM

Reported Version



# Congress.gov – March 2019, Part 2

Thursday, March 7, 2019 | Weekly View

Previous Day | Today | Next Day

### HOUSE

Committee on Appropriations Hearing 9:00 AM (ET) | Details

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

Public Witness Hearing — Tribal Programs: Day 2, Morning Session

### HOUSE

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Meeting 9:00 AM (ET) | Details

Full Committee Business Meeting Topic: Adoption of the

Committee's Views and Estimates Letter

### HOUSE

Committee on Appropriations Hearing Rescheduled to 9:15 AM (ET) | Details

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

Library of Congress Budget Request for Fi

### March 2019, Part 2

Enhancement - Committee Profiles - Subcommittee Filter

 You can <u>filter by subcommittee</u> when you limit your research or results to a single Congress on a committee profile.

### Enhancement - Legislation Text - Bill Type Filter

When you search from the Legislation Text <u>form</u>, you can filter your <u>search</u> <u>results</u> by Bill Text Versions.

### Enhancement - Committee Schedule - Meeting Updates

 Rescheduled and postponed meetings are clearly indicated on the weekly and daily views of the committee schedule.



# Congress.gov – April 2019

### **April 2019**

Enhancement - House Committee Hearings Video - Live Indicator

 You can tell at a glance when a House committee hearing is livestreaming by looking for the LIVE icon next to the Committee Hearings Video link under Current Legislative Activities on the Congress.gov homepage.

### **Current Legislative Activities**

116th Congress (2019-2020)

### House of Representatives



Today: April 10, 2019
The House convened at 9:00 a.m.

On the Floor Today

H.R.1644

Previous Meeting: April 9, 2019

### **House Links**

House Floor Activities

Committee Hearings Video LIVE

Communications to the House

Bills to be Considered

### Senate



Today: April 10, 2019

The Senate convened at 9:45 a.m. Previous Meeting: April 9, 2019

### Senate Links

On the Senate Floor
Communications to the Senate

Nominations

Treaty Documents

### Recent

Yesterday in Congress

Bill Texts

Committee Schedule

Calendars and Schedules

Committee Reports

Roll Call Votes

Presented to President

### The Congressional Record

Read the latest legislative activity.

Browse by Date

### **CRS Reports**

Congressional Research Service Reports are available to the public.

Search CRS Reports



# Congress.gov – May 2019

### **Current Legislative Activities**

116th Congress (2019-2020)

### House of Representatives



Today: May 2, 2019
The House convened at 9:00 a.m.
On the Floor Today

H.R.9

Previous Meeting: May 1, 2019

### House Links

House Floor Activities

Committee Hearings Video LIVE

Communications to the House
Bills to be Considered

Senate



Today: May 2, 2019
The Senate convened at 9:30 a.m.

### On the Floor Today

- PN257
   PN250
- PN212

Previous Meeting: May 1, 2019

### Senate Links

On the Senate Floor
Communications to the Senate
Nominations
Treaty Documents

### May 2019, Part 1

Enhancement - Committee Schedule - Upcoming Meetings on Homepage

 <u>Upcoming House and Senate Committee Meetings</u> on the homepage displays the next three committee hearings/meetings scheduled with the date, time, and committee name as well as a link to the detail page of each listed meeting.

### Enhancement - Committee Profile Pages - Results Navigation

 When viewing a bill or other item listed on a <u>committee profile page</u>, you can use the navigation arrows to move to the next or previous item in the list without needing to return to the profile page.

### Enhancement - Legislation Alerts - Cosponsor Dates

Alerts on legislation that list new cosponsors include the date of cosponsorship.

### Upcoming House and Senate Committee Meetings

Daily View | Weekly View

Today at 1:45 PM (ET) Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

May. 3, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ET) House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties

May, 3, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ET) House Science, Space, and Technology Subcommittee on Energy

Моге



# Congress.gov – July 2019

### July 2019, Part 1

Enhancement - Committee Schedule - Supporting Documentation

Committee Schedule detail pages display supporting documentation when available.

### Enhancement - Search Results - Navigation

 Page navigation is available at the top of each search results page to make it easier to move through large sets of results.

Video of Proceedings

Data will display when it becomes available.

Legislation

Nominations |

Congressional Record.

Committee Reports

### July 2019, Part 2

Enhancement - Committee Schedule - Weekly View

Advanced Searches Browse

Committees: Senate - Veterans' Affairs

 Committee Schedule <u>weekly view</u> includes a calendar-based date picker for navigating to different weekly schedules.





Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program, and for other purposes.

Tracker: Introdition Passed Sensis Passed House To President Became Law

Latest Action: Senate + 09/12/2019 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (All Actions)

Sponsor: Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR] (Introduced 09/12/2019) Cosponsors: (0)

### Witnesses

Data will display when it becomes available

### Supporting Documentation

§.983, Weatherization Enhancement and Local Energy Efficiency Investment and Accountability Act of 2019

S.2048, Joint Long-Term Storage Act of 2019

S.1857, Federal Energy and Water Management Performance Act of 2019

S.1741, Reducing the Cost of Energy Storage Act of 2019

S.1685, Launching Energy Advancement and Development through Innovations for Natural Gas Act of 2019

S.1602, BEST Act

S.1593, Promoting Grid Storage Act of 2019

S.143, Department of Energy Veterans' Health Initiative Act

S.1183, Expanding Access to Sustainable Energy Act of 2019

S.1064, Appalachian Energy for National Security Act
H.R.1138, To reauthorize the West Valley demonstration project, and for other

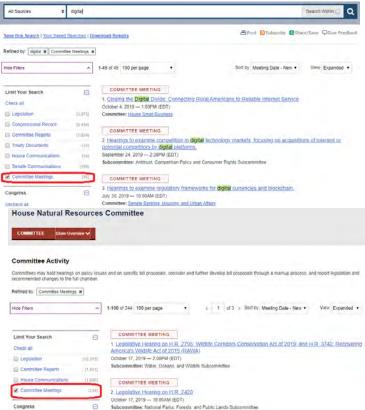
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Search Tools Support - anwe -

# September 2019, Part 1 Enhancement – Committee Schedule – Search • Committee Schedule meeting information is searched from the search bar when you select All Sources. Enhancement – Committee Profiles – Committee Meetings • Committee meetings are listed on each committee's profile page. Enhancement – Law Library Reports – Homepage Link • Link from the Congress.gov homepage to the Law Library's Comprehensive Index of Legal Reports.





### September 2019, Part 2

Enhancement - Committee Schedule - Filters

 Weekly and daily views of the Committee Schedule have filters to limit meetings by chamber or committee.

### Enhancement - Committee Schedule - Display Options

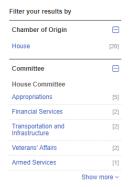
 Weekly view of the Committee Schedule allows you to toggle between a compact or expanded view.

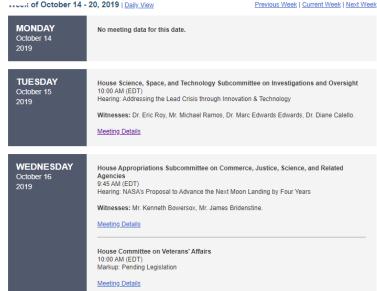
Enhancement - Legislation - Committee Meeting Links

e House and Senate committee meetings and hearings for the selected week. Data sources for this schedule are the House Benate.gov. About Committee Data provides additional information.

View Expanded 1

Bill detail pages link to associated committee meetings on the Committee Schedule.











H.R.182, H.R.205, H.R.759, H.R.1088, H.R.1225, H.R.1305, H.R.1365, H.R.1941, H.R.2427, H.R.2490, and H.R.3195

116th Congress (2019-2020)

### HOUSE COMMITTEE MARKUP

Committee: House Natural Resources

Supporting Documentation: H.R.182, H.R.1225, H.R.2427, H.R.3195, H.R.1088, H.R.1305, H.R.1365, H.R.759, H.R.1941, H.R.205, H.R.2490

Date: Wednesday June 19, 2019 (10:00 AM EDT)

Location: 1324 Longworth House Office Bldg, Washington, D.C.

Website: https://naturalresources.house.gov/

Video of Proceedings

# FULL COMM > EE MARKUP H.R. 182, H.R. 205, H.R. 759, H.R. 1088, H.R. 1225, H.R. 1305, H.R. 1365, H.R. 1941, H.R. 2427, H.R. 2490, H.R. 3195

More on This Hearing U.S. Capitol Map

Committee Memberships

(Clerk.House.gov)

### Witnesses

Data will display when it becomes available.

### **Supporting Documentation**

HR 1941, H.Rept. 116-157 [PDF] HR 759, H.Rept. 116-165 [PDF]

HR 205, H.Rept. 116-156 [PDF]
FC Markup Action - revised and updated 9.30.19 [PDF]

RC 8: HR 205, Final Passage [PDF]

RC 4: HR 205, Graves #4 [PDF]

RC\_3: HR 205, Graves #2 and #3, offered en bloc [PDF]

RC31: <u>HR 3195</u>, Final Passage [PDF] RC30: HR 3195, Graves #7 [PDF]

RC29: HR 3195, Graves #5 [PDF]

RC28: HR 3195. Graves #4, as amended by unanimous consent [PDF]

RC27: HR 3195, Graves #3 [PDF] RC26: HR 3195, Graves #2 [PDF]

RC25: HR 3195, Graves #2 [PDF]

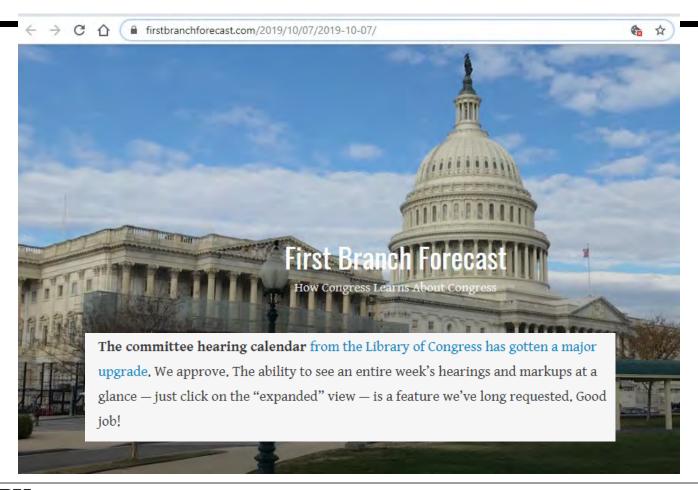
RC24: HR 3195, Gosar #133 [PDF]

RC23: HR 3195, Gosar #133 [PDF]

RC22: HR 3195, Gosar #128 [PDF]

RC21: HR 3195, Gosar #127 [PDF]





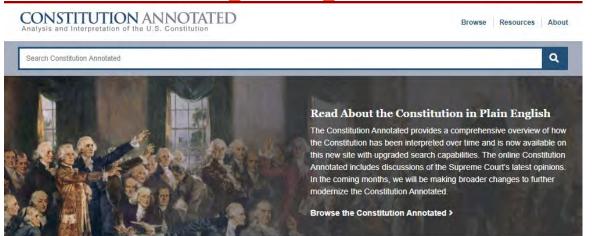


# Congress.gov – September 2019





# Constitution.Congress.gov







U.S. Constitution Resources at the Library of Congress

Constitution of the United States: Primary Documents in American History

Creating the United States: Creating the United



### Constitution Annotated Highlights and Resources

Constitution of the United States Introduction

Historical Note on Formation of the Constitution



# Constitution.Congress.gov





# Congress.gov – End of 2019 Plans

- Continue work enhancing the unified House and Senate committee calendar
- Refine Quick Search and Advanced Search Forms to meet advanced requirements
- Add Public Law text in USLM Text: H.R.39 116th Congress (2017-2018)



**Current TXT** 

Future USLM





# Congress.gov

See all enhancements at <a href="https://www.congress.gov/about/enhancements">https://www.congress.gov/about/enhancements</a>

and on *In Custodia Legis* at <a href="http://blogs.loc.gov/law">http://blogs.loc.gov/law</a>



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