Federal Legislative History
Legislative History

Why

When
Documents

1. Bills
2. Committee Mark-ups
3. Hearing
4. Committee Prints
5. Committee Reports
6. House or Senate Documents
7. Debates/Proceedings
1. Committee Reports (esp. Conference Report)
2. Hearings
3. Debates/Proceedings
4. Committee Prints
5. House or Senate Documents
6. Bills
7. Committee Mark-ups
Finding Legislative History

Step One

Find:

- Public Law Number (P.L.), or
- Bill number for unenacted legislation
P.L. or Pub. L. = number assigned as bill becomes law, starts with number of congress

Stat. (Statutes at Large) = official publication of the laws of the United States
Fishery Conservation Zone Transition Act
Short title, see 16 USCA § 1801 note

Current USCA classifications:
Section of Pub.L. 95–6
3(1) ........................................ 16 USCA § 1826

This list contains only sections enacted by this Public Law. For all sections affected by this law, see Pub.L. 95–6 in the USCA-TABLES database and the enacting credit set out below.

Table of Contents for current USCA classifications:
16 USCA § 1826

Enacting law:

Amending laws:
Pub.L. 95–8, §§ 1, 2, Mar. 3, 1977, 91 Stat. 18 (16 § 1823 note)
Step Two

- **Compiled Legislative Histories**

- No way out – do it yourself
Congressional (ProQuest)

- Legislative Histories 1970 – date
  - Microfiche set
- Full text mid-1990’s forward
- Old stuff (before 1970) the Serial Set
Congress.gov

- Coverage – 1973 to date
- Recent - includes reports, links to Congressional Record
- Other web sites – GovInfo, House or Senate and some Committees
Congressional

- Also: Congressional Research Service Reports
- Full text of laws
Westlaw

- USCCAN (Laws & One Action)
- GAO (1921-1995)
- Current: Bill Text/Tracking
- Check coverage dates
Lexis

- All Sources: Federal Legal - U.S.: Legislative Histories & Materials
- CIS index material also from 1970, others from 1990’s