



# UNITED STATES SENATE LIBRARY

IFLA PARLIAMENTARY PRE-CONFERENCE, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, WASHINGTON, D.C.

10 AUGUST 2016

LEONA FAUST, SENATE LIBRARIAN



THE UNITED STATES  
SENATE  
LIBRARY



## HISTORY AND MISSION

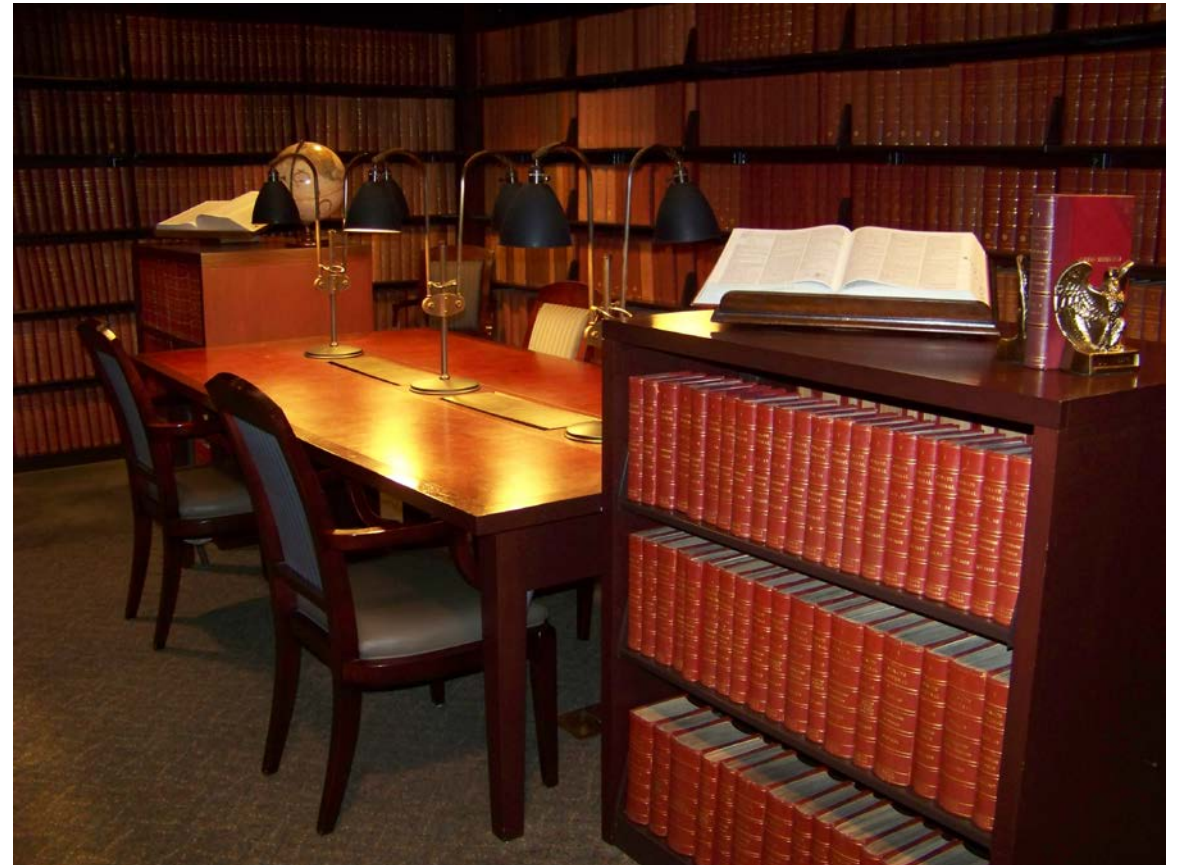
In 1791, the Senate instructed the Secretary of the Senate to “procure and deposit in his office, the laws of the several states” for use of senators. As this collection of state and federal materials grew throughout the 1800s improved space and management was required.

In 1871, the Senate designated a suite of rooms in the Capitol for the Library and appointed George S. Wagner as the first Senate Librarian.

In April 1975, the Library inaugurated its “Bill Status” service to provide current legislative status information for Senate staff and their constituents. The new service quickly overwhelmed telephone capacity and dedicated lines were installed in July.

In 1982, the Library became a selective depository of federal government documents as part of the Federal Depository Library Program.

In February 1999, the Library opened in its present location in the Russell Senate Office Building.





# SERVICES FOR THE SENATE

## RESEARCH SERVICES

Under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate, the United States Senate Library continues to serve as an important resource for institutional knowledge and has expanded its mission to provide confidential, non partisan research services to senators and staff.

- Compiling legislative histories
- Locating relevant statistics and journal articles
- Accessing court filings and public records
- Finding information needed for statements on the Senate Floor, committee hearings, and constituent inquiries
- Providing individual and group training in online resources including [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) and enterprise-wide commercial research services



# SERVICES FOR THE SENATE

## ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

All Senate staff have desktop access to a selection of online commercial databases to assist them with their research needs, offered as a service of the Secretary of the Senate and administered by the Library. These include:

- Real-time news tracking and clipping tools
- Online legislative documents
- Congressional hearing and newsmaker transcripts and alerts
- Legal information
- Journal articles and policy research tools



# SENATE NEWSWATCH

Real-time news tracking and clipping tools to create custom newsletters, email alerts for news about senators, committees, and states. Includes, news wires, transcripts, and over 1,000 US state and local newspapers.

- The Senate Library is a lending library that offers an extensive collection of congressional materials in print, including House and Senate bills, hearings, reports and debates dating from 1789 to the present.
- Senate Dear Colleague letters distributed by internal email are indexed and captured for Senate use.
- Senate Executive Calendars were digitized, and indexed to create an archive for Senate staff and the public.

[http://www.senate.gov/reference/Index/Calendars\\_schedules.htm#BrowseExecutiveCalendars](http://www.senate.gov/reference/Index/Calendars_schedules.htm#BrowseExecutiveCalendars)

- All original Senate records are transferred and stored at the Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration.

<http://www.archives.gov/legislative/>

**THE UNITED STATES SENATE LIBRARY**

Home

**eDear Colleague Letters List Page**

This Dear Colleague letter archive contains the full-text search results for letters issued by the Senate from March 2012 and includes earlier letters issued by the Senate. The list is sortable by title, date, Congress, bill number, and person or about the person.

Search

Title	Published Date			
Notice of Mandatory Information Security Awareness Training For All Network Users <a href="#">[pdf]</a>	7/14/2016			
Join the NextGen 911 Caucus: Visit a 911 Center During the August Recess <a href="#">[pdf]</a>	7/13/2016			George Shinkus, John M. Burr, Richard
Safeguard the Military's Basic Allowance for Housing <a href="#">[pdf]</a>	6/29/2016	114	S.2943	Boozman, John, Tester, Jon, Murkowski, Lisa
Congressional Briefing on Wild Horse and Burro Management on Public Lands <a href="#">[pdf]</a>	6/28/2016	114		Flake, Jeff, Barrasso, John, McCain, John
Cosponsor the Fair Elections Now Act (S. 1538) <a href="#">[pdf]</a>	6/22/2016	114	S.1538	Durbin, Richard, J.
Invitation to Cosponsor the Veterans First Act <a href="#">[pdf]</a>	6/21/2016	114	S.2921	Isakson, Johnny
Ice Cream, Apple Pie and Entrepreneurs at Junior Achievement Student Expo <a href="#">[pdf]</a>	6/16/2016	114		Vitter, David
Senate Select Committee on Ethics Guidance Regarding the Purchase and Use of Challenge Coins <a href="#">[pdf]</a>	6/6/2016	114		Boxer, Barbara, Isakson, Johnny
Strengthening the Innovator Pipeline <a href="#">[pdf]</a>	6/3/2016	114		Coons, Christopher A, Moran, Jerry



## SERVICES FOR THE SENATE

### COLLECTIONS AND READER SERVICES

All Senate staff may search the Library's website and catalog. Requests to borrow materials may be made through the catalog, by phone, or email.

- A book collection of almost 60,000 volumes is focused on current events, history, government, public policy, biography, and law
- A popular selection of audiobooks titles and more than 100 current print edition periodicals are available for Senate staff.
- A "New Books" and "Popular Reads" display highlight new acquisitions and titles that interest our patrons.
- Patron computer workstations
- Access to Senate WiFi for staff with Senate-issued laptops and tablets



# SERVICES FOR THE SENATE

## OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

Frequent staff turnover requires ongoing outreach to Senate members and staff.

- Informational materials for new member orientation
- In-person office visits, customized training, and web-based options for state staff
- Participation in educational events for state staff
- Monthly promotions highlighting the Library's collections, resources, training, and services
- Public display cases highlighting public history, Senate history, and the Library's services
- Book talks and featured online reading lists linked to the Senate Library catalog
- Conduct periodic Senate staff surveys focused on information and training needs
- Coordinate Senate training, feedback, and support for [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov)



## THE SENATE'S PUBLIC WEBSITE

- Senate Library staff work with the Senate Webmaster to create, update, and maintain reference and statistical content for the Senate's public website <http://senate.gov>
- Examples include:
  - Update of the Floor Schedule upon adjournment of the Senate
  - Active Legislation [http://www.senate.gov/legislative/active\\_leg\\_page.htm](http://www.senate.gov/legislative/active_leg_page.htm)
  - Books by Senators in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress [http://www.senate.gov/reference/bibliography/Sitting\\_Senators/index.htm](http://www.senate.gov/reference/bibliography/Sitting_Senators/index.htm)
  - Living Former Senators [http://www.senate.gov/senators/Biographical/former\\_senators\\_alphabetical.htm](http://www.senate.gov/senators/Biographical/former_senators_alphabetical.htm)

UNITED STATES SENATE

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► PUBLIC DISCLOSURE  
► NOMINATIONS  
► STATISTICS & LISTS

This Week in Senate History  
**August 4th, 1908**  
William B. Allison died at age 79, ending a 35-year-and-5-month Senate career—the longest to that time.  
[More](#)

Established by the Constitution as one chamber of the federal government's legislative branch, the United States Senate is comprised of one hundred members—two senators from each of the 50 states—who serve six-year, overlapping terms. Senators, along with members of the House of Representatives, propose, author, and vote on federal legislation that touches upon all aspects of U.S. domestic and foreign policy. Senators provide advice and consent on executive nominations and treaties and conduct oversight of all branches of the federal government.

Postcard circa 1880. U.S. Senate Historical Office

*Administrations come and go, Houses assemble and disperse, Senators change, but the Senate is always there in the Capitol, its majesty organized, with an existence unbroken since 1789.*  
Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, "The Senate," 1903

[Past Feature Articles](#)

Capitol Tours

FOR INFORMATION ON CAPITOL TOURS, PLEASE CALL 202-226-8000

The [visitors page](#) is your source for information on Capitol tours, maps of the area and visiting Washington, D.C.

FLOOR WEBCAST  
► 2016 SESSION SCHEDULE  
► SCHEDULED HEARINGS  
► ACTIVE LEGISLATION  
► VOTES

Floor Schedule

Friday, Aug 05, 2016  
7:45 a.m.: Convene for a pro forma session.

Previous Meeting  
Tuesday, Aug 02, 2016  
The Senate convened at 10:00 a.m. for a pro forma session.

[Daily Digest](#) (latest issue)  
[Senate Calendar](#) (latest issue)  
[Executive Calendar](#) (latest issue, PDF format)

Floor Activity  
View the previous legislative day's [Floor Activity](#).



QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION.

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