Sources of Compiled Legislative Histories
A Bibliography of Government Documents, Periodical Articles, and Books, 1st Congress - 114th Congress
Fourth Edition
Edited by: Ronald E. Wheeler and Jenna E. Fegreus

- The first and only resource of its kind—an essential tool for legislative history research!
- New editors succeed the incomparable Nancy P. Johnson while maintaining her absolute accuracy and quality standards
- Contains more than 3,300 laws and nearly 7,800 bibliographic records
- Easy-to-use and comprehensive format is perfect for librarians, attorneys, government employees, students, and researchers
- Since the last edition, there are more than 1,100 new laws and nearly 1,800 new bibliographic entries!


A legislative history is the collection of documents produced in Congress during the enactment of a law. These documents are the “working papers” behind the often terse statutory language. Judges, lawyers, law students, scholars, and interest groups have a need in their work to determine the legislative intent of a statute to resolve ambiguities created by the general language of the act. This book was originally created and edited by the late law librarian Nancy P. Johnson, and is now updated by professional law librarians Ron Wheeler and Jenna Fegreus. This new fourth edition is updated with more than 1,100 new laws and nearly 1,800 new bibliographic entries, including two types of compiled legislative histories. The first part of this book includes works issued by commercial sources and legislative histories by topic. The second part, the main portion of this work, includes works compiled for major laws. The third and final part contains an Author-Title Index and a Public Law Index. Beginning with the 113th Congress, this new edition also includes a summary of each source at the conclusion of every entry to provide further insight into sources and the ways in which they may be useful for further research. This print edition will be added to HeinOnline with a one-year delay.

About the Editors

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Ronald E. Wheeler received his BA from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, MLIS from Wayne State University, and JD from the University of Michigan Law School. A recognized leader in the area of legal research instruction, he has served in various law library management roles at law schools across the country, including Suffolk University Law School, the University of San Francisco School of Law, Georgia State University College of Law, and the University of New Mexico School of Law. During 2016-17, Director Wheeler served as president of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), becoming the first African-American male president of AALL. He is a member of the Law Librarians of New England (LLNE), serves on the executive board of the New England Law Library Consortium (NELLCO), and is a member of the Editorial Board of the Legal Information Review.

Jenna E. Fegreus
Jenna E. Fegreus is a Senior Legal Information Librarian at Boston University School of Law, where she also teaches legal research classes. Prior to joining the Boston University staff, Jenna had experience working as a library assistant and special projects cataloger at the Social Law Library, as a judicial intern at both the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court and the Land Court, and as a legal intern in former Massachusetts Governor Patrick’s Office of Policy and Cabinet Affairs, among others. She holds a BA from Providence College, a master’s degree in Library and Information Science from Simmons College, and a JD from Northeastern University School of Law. Jenna is currently serving as the Vice President/President-Elect of the Association of Boston Law Librarians (ABLL).
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