

# State Legislative Search Guide

## Introduction

The State Legislative Search Guide is intended to facilitate use of all 50 public domain state legislative databases (U.S. States) for persons interested in searching for state legislation, statutes, and state legislative information. Updated in early 2011, it lists the 50 states' legislative websites (as hyperlinks) and contact information for assistance with questions. The guide also contains navigation directions and tips for bill searching in each database. The guide is intended to be used as an electronic document to allow use of hyperlinks. There is a full length guide (this document) and a two page condensed version of the guide. The Condensed State Legislative Search Guide is intended to be used to rapidly navigate between state websites or databases and can be found at the following address:

<http://prcstl.wustl.edu/Documents/Condensed%202011%20State%20Legislative%20Search%20Guide.pdf>

The guide is particularly useful for legislative searching across multiple states when the user is not already familiar with the states' databases and subscription databases are financially out of reach. Since each state legislature's website is formatted differently the guide helps to locate information for legislative searching. Our team hopes that by compiling the states' legislative database information in one place the guide will ease access and use of these valuable public resources.

The next pages provide information on how to use the guide, they include:

- Definitions of words that can be confusing because of variable uses in the state legislatures
- Information contained in the header of each state table
- Lists of hyperlinks included in the guide
- Description of navigation directions
- List of all the additional information we have provided for the states and its source
- Links to a few legislative summary databases that can provide topical introductions to legislation across the states.

## Definitions and Variable Word Use

States sometimes use the same words differently or different words for the same things, below are a few examples to help make your navigating multiple state websites easier.

**Bill Tracking:** Bill tracking always means following a bill through the legislative process from introduction to enactment. Bill Tracking can also mean a subscription or email alert service that helps you to keep updated on the status of one or more bills as they move through the legislative process.

**Quick search:** We use this to refer to the search fields that many legislatures provide on their homepage.

**Legislature:** 24 states call their legislature “Legislature” or “State Legislature,” 19 states call it the “General Assembly,” Massachusetts and New Hampshire call it the “General Court,” and North Dakota and Oregon call it the “Legislative Assembly.”

**Keyword:** Some states use keyword searching strictly to mean searching a document using the keywords the bill drafter identified for the bill, others use it to mean a search of the entire bill text.

**Legislation/Instrument/Measure:** The general terms for both bills and resolutions.

**Bill/Act:** Pieces of legislation that are debated by the legislature and become statute (law) if enacted/signed by the Governor.

**Resolution/Memorial:** this is a non binding piece of legislation that does not need to be signed by the Governor, if these pass the legislature they are referred to as “adopted.”

**Code/Laws:** A collection of written laws. These can include statutes and regulations.

**Statutes:** The laws that result from bills that pass both chambers of the legislature and are signed into law (enacted) by the governor, there are also other types of laws that originate from different sources, e.g. regulations and executive orders.

## How to Use the Search Guide

Each state has one page devoted to it, thus the body of the search guide is 50 pages. The information for each state is laid out in a table. The format of the information is standardized across the states.

*In the header:* At the top of the table for each state you will find:

- Two letter postal abbreviation for the state.
- Name of the state's legislature.
- Link to the legislature's main website—New York has no main website so links to the Senate and Assembly are both given.
- Hyperlink for bill searching.
- A contact number that our team has tested to make sure you can ask questions about state legislation—often the number is the legislative library in the state.
- The span of years that the state offers searchable legislation, e.g. 1995 – Current Session.

*Follow the hyperlinks:* Hyperlinks are provided for quick access to the varying functions on state legislative websites. We have included hyperlinks for the following pages:

- Legislative homepages.
- Bill search pages—text search pages or the main page where search type is selected if there are different pages for different types of searches.
- Statute search pages—these can either be part of the legislative website or external sites.
- Bill tracking—where available.
- Glossaries or abbreviations of legislative terms—where available.

*Use the Navigation Instructions:* The Search Guide includes navigation directions for locating the following functions from the states' homepages:

- Quick bill searches on the homepage or in a menu bar
- Bill Searching—especially text searching
- Changing sessions for bill searching—most states default to the current session so this is to search past sessions
- Statute searching
- Bill tracking
- Glossaries of legislative terms—where available and appropriate

*Interpreting Navigation Directions:* Below are the navigation directions our team used to simplify website navigation:

- An arrow → is used to stand in for “go to”, “next”, or “then”
- “Double quotes” are used to indicate language that actually appears on the screen, e.g. “Search Bills”
- The command “select” is used when you are to click on a field with your mouse
- The command “scroll down” is used when a desired field needs to be reached by scrolling down the webpage
- The command “scroll over” is used when you need to mouse over a field for a pop-up or drop-down menu to appear
- All navigation directions start from the homepage or from a menu bar that is present on all the legislature’s web pages.

*Notes and Information:* The authors of the Search Guide have included some information about the state legislatures that we think might be useful in planning any advocacy, lobbying or education work you do with legislators and staff or to inform research you are conducting. Below is a list of included information with descriptions and the sources of the information.

- **Session Length:** Annual or biannual meeting of legislature, start and end of sessions. Source: State legislative websites and the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) <http://www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=17272>
- **Governor’s Veto:** Presence or absence of governor’s line item veto power in the state. Source: NCSL <http://www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=12640>
- **Type of Legislature:** A rating system devised by the NCSL ranks states by the amount of time legislatures spend in session. Red legislatures are full time and are also called Professional legislatures. Blue legislatures are part time and are also called Citizen Legislatures. White legislatures are intermediate (not full time, not part time). The Red Light and Blue Light categories are not quite full time and not quite part time categories, respectively. See <http://www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=16701> for more information.

RED	RED LIGHT	WHITE	BLUE LIGHT	BLUE
CA, MI, NY, PA	IL, FL, OH, MA, NJ, WI	AL, AK, AZ, AR, CO, CT, DE, HI, IA, KY, LA, MD, MN, MO, NE, NC, OK, OR, SC, TN, TX, VA, WA	GA, ID, IN, KS, ME, MS, NV, NM, RI, VT, WV	MT, NH, ND, SD, UT, WY

- **Term Limits:** Presence or absence of term limits for legislators and number of years they can serve if term limits are present. Source: NCSL <http://www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=14844>
- **Terminology:** Provides navigation and or links to a legislative glossary and/or list of abbreviations (in states where the legislature does not provide a glossary this field is left out). Source: State websites
- **Changes to the website since 2009:** Details new offerings on the legislatures’ websites, only listed if changes occurred. Source: Conversations with state legislative staff or IT departments

- **State Particularities:** Processes or features in the state that make its legislature different from all others, only listed for states where legislative staff made note of the particular feature. Source: Conversations with state legislative staff
- **General Notes:** Navigation, tips, or other general information about the website that may be helpful, only listed when there was something noteworthy that didn't fit the other categories. Source: Research team observations and conversations with state legislative staff

*Additional Resources:* Use the following legislative summaries and databases to get a lay of the land across all 50 states for your topic area of interest. Starting with these summaries can help you know what language to search for in the state databases. Since these are compiled they may not be the best source for up to the minute legislation.

- **National Conference of State Legislatures:** Summaries available on virtually any topic you can think of! Select the collection you are interested in at the top of the page and bookmark your favorites so you don't have to struggle to find them next time, <http://www.ncsl.org/Default.aspx?TabID=788&tabs=856,34,736#856>
- **The Nutrition and Physical Activity Database:** Legislation on nutrition, physical activity and obesity from the 50 U.S. States and District of Columbia compiled by the CDC's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/DNPAleg/index.asp>
- **American Lung Association' Tobacco Policy Project/State Legislated Actions on Tobacco Issues (SLATI):** Summaries of tobacco laws for all 50 states, <http://slati.lungusa.org/states.asp>
- **Yale Rudd Center For Food Policy & Obesity:** Database of current federal, and state legislation to aid with tracking bills relevant to food policy and obesity, <http://www.yaleruddcenter.org/legislation/>

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**Contact Information:** If there are features or changes you would like to suggest for the 2012 revision please contact: Amy Eyler, PhD, Prevention Research Center in St. Louis, Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis, 660 S. Euclid, Campus Box 8109, St. Louis, MO 63110, T: (314) 362-9642, F: (314) 362-9665, [aeyley@gwbmail.wustl.edu](mailto:aeyley@gwbmail.wustl.edu) .

AL		Alabama Legislature	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.legislature.state.al.us/">http://www.legislature.state.al.us/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	(334) 242-7826
<b>Bill and Statute Search Link (ALISON)</b>	<a href="http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/acas/ACASLogin.asp">http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/acas/ACASLogin.asp</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	2000 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search in left menu bar of Legislature homepage (“Find a Current Instrument”)</li> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select “Legislation, Code &amp; Constitution” → select “Click Here to Visit ALISON” → left menu bar (on red “Session” tab) → select “Bills” → select “Search”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Select “Content” under “Search” to search entire bill text, “Keyword” finds matches for keywords entered by the bill drafter.</li> <li>○ Change session: click in top left hand corner where it indicates the session → select session in popup window</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select “Legislation, Code &amp; Constitution” → select “Click Here to Visit ALISON” → far left vertical tabs → select blue “Code of Ala” tab → select “Search”</li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Search function allows searching by bill status (with bill #), sponsor, selected status, committee, or selected matter transaction</li> <li>▪ “Tips for Searching” under “Execute Query” button: explains Boolean Operators to refine queries: wild card characters( *or **), and, and not, near, or, “quotes”</li> <li>▪ Search terms are highlighted in the bill text</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: -web format</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select “Legislation, Code &amp; Constitution” → select “Click Here to Visit ALISON” → select “Personal Instrument List” (under red “Session” tab) → select “Create New Account”</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Alabama Legislature meets annually for up to 30 Legislative days starting in March, February or January, dependent on a 4yr cycle</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary available: Homepage → left menu bar → select “Legislative Process” → select “Glossary”</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Separate database for legislative search: ALISON (Alabama Legislative Information System Online)</li> <li>▪ Comprehensive HELP section on ALISON which appears to not load. However, when you select the help topic a tutorial document will load in the blank screen.</li> </ul>	

AK		Alaska State Legislature	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://w3.legis.state.ak.us/">http://w3.legis.state.ak.us/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	Legislative Information Offices (907) 465-4648 In AK (800) 478-4648; webmaster: <a href="mailto:lio_juneau@legis.state.ak.us">lio_juneau@legis.state.ak.us</a>
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/start.asp">http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/start.asp</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1993 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick bill search on right of Legislature homepage</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select “Bills &amp; Laws” → searching in field on left menu bar or on top right of screen yields the same results—enter bill number or keyword in this field                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Searching by keyword only searches short and long title of bill, not yet able to search full text of the bill (Planned improvement for 2012)</li> <li>○ Change session: left menu bar → scroll over "Archive" → select session of interest</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → select “Bills &amp; Laws” → left menu bar → scroll over “Tools” → select “Statute Information Retrieval System (SIRS)”</li> <li>▪ Change year in “Archive” as you do for bill searching above</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/sirs_form.asp?session=27">http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/sirs_form.asp?session=27</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In search result, retrieves diverse legislative information and documents, including amendments, fiscal notes, minutes, sponsor statement, and bill history</li> <li>▪ "quotes" and the asterisk (*) wild card character do not change search results</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF/ web format</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text - [bracketed]                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ "Get Started" tab → select “BASIS tutorial”: provides useful information for searching legislation on the website</li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select “Bills &amp; Laws” → left menu bar → scroll over “Tools” → select “Bill Tracking Management Facility (BTMF)”</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/btmf_login.asp?session=26">http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/btmf_login.asp?session=26</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Alaska Legislature meets annually starting in January for up to 90 calendar days</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Abbreviations &amp; Acronyms under “GET STARTED” tab on top menu bar:</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://w3.legis.state.ak.us/docs/pdf/abbreviations.pdf">http://w3.legis.state.ak.us/docs/pdf/abbreviations.pdf</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Streaming video in all the Committee Rooms cameras on committee and testifier stand.</li> <li>▪ Homepage has been reordered</li> <li>▪ Media Center is a new addition in 2010</li> <li>▪ May have full text search function by 2012</li> </ul> <p>AK Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Legislative Counsel is a partisan joint oversight committee that oversees all non partisan groups in the legislature.</li> </ul>	

AZ		Arizona State Legislature	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.azleg.gov/">http://www.azleg.gov/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	(602) 926-3171, (602) 926-3559 webmaster@azleg.gov
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.azleg.gov/Bills.asp">http://www.azleg.gov/Bills.asp</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1997 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick link on top right of page searching Bills by number</li> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar select "Bills" → select chamber and bill range you wish to search (or View All...) → enter your search phrase                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: top menu bar → select "Change Sessions" link</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → scroll down → "General Information" → select "Arizona Revised Statutes"</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.azleg.gov/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp">http://www.azleg.gov/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ "quotes" or the asterisk (*) wild card character do not change search</li> <li>▪ Selecting "Hit Highlighted" tab bolds the search term in the bill text</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - "CAPITALIZED" or "CAPITALIZED IN BLUE FONT"; deleted text - <del>strikethrough in red</del> (old text)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law and prior versions of the bill</li> <li>○ Use "show versions" of the bill option on bill search results to compare changes that were made between bill versions.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → scroll down → "General Information" → select "ALIS Tracking"</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://alistrack.azleg.gov/">http://alistrack.azleg.gov/</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Arizona State Legislature meets annually starting in January for approximately 100 calendar days</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislators may only serve 8 consecutive years in the House and 8 consecutive years in the Senate</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → scroll down → "General Information" → select "Abbreviations"</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To get back to Homepage click on "Arizona State Legislature" in top left</li> <li>▪ "Frequently Asked Questions" menu provides general information on navigating the legislature website, including searching legislators, searching bill and statutes, tracking bills, etc.</li> <li>▪ Database does not provide advanced search options</li> </ul>	

AR		Arkansas State Legislature	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/assembly/2011/2011R/Pages/Home.aspx">http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/assembly/2011/2011R/Pages/Home.aspx</a>	<b>Contact</b>	(501) 682-9304 Bureau of Legislative Research
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/SearchCenter/Pages/historicalbil.aspx">http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/SearchCenter/Pages/historicalbil.aspx</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1987 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search link by bill number or keyword on right hand menu</li> <li>▪ Homepage → select “Bills &amp; Resolutions” → select “Click here” link                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Keyword search: → “Historical Bills tab” or select “All documents tab”</li> <li>○ Change session: select box next to desired session in search menu</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → Arkansas Law on left menu → select “Search/View Arkansas Code”</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/arcodes/Default.asp">http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/arcodes/Default.asp</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the Arkansas Code Search page, provided by the Bureau of Legislative Research on www.Lexis-Nexis.com</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can search full bill text by bill number, sponsor, or search key words but, hard to retrieve bills by bill number</li> <li>▪ the asterisk (*) wild card character change search, but “quotes“ does not change search</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF</li> <li>▪ Highlight search terms in the list of results, but not in the bill text</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Changes to existing law: Added text is <u>underlined</u>; Deleted text is <del>stricken through</del></li> <li>○ Amendments to a prior bill version: Newly added language is in <i>italics</i>; Newly deleted language is in <del><i>italics with strikethrough</i></del></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → select “Bills &amp; Resolutions” → select “Personalized Bill Tracking”</li> <li>▪ Or follow direct link: <a href="http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/assembly/2011/2011R/Pages/LoginUser.aspx">http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/assembly/2011/2011R/Pages/LoginUser.aspx</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Beginning in 2009 the Arkansas State Legislature meets annually starting the second Monday in January. Meets up to 60 calendar days in odd years and 30 calendar days in even years</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislators may only serve 6 years in the House and 8 years in the Senate during their lifetime</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Simple search format, easy to use</li> <li>▪ No "Help" function</li> <li>▪ ‘Useful Links’ on right hand menu provides links to research publications or legislative documents</li> </ul>	

CA		California State Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.legislature.ca.gov/">http://www.legislature.ca.gov/</a>	Contact	CA St. Library Ref. Desk (916) 654-0185 portal.webmaster@lc.ca.gov
Bill/Statute Link	<a href="http://leginfo.ca.gov/index.html">http://leginfo.ca.gov/index.html</a>	Years Covered	1993 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search on right menu bar of main webpage. Search bills by session, house, number, author or keyword</li> <li>▪ Official California Legislative Information website: <a href="http://leginfo.ca.gov/index.html">http://leginfo.ca.gov/index.html</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bottom menu bar → select “BILL INFORMATION” → select radio button for bill number, author, or keyword → enter search info in field</li> <li>○ Change session by using drop down menu</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislature homepage → left menu bar → “Research, Laws and Publications” → select “Laws and Constitution”</li> <li>▪ Or follow direct link:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ California Code by keyword at <a href="http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html">http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html</a></li> <li>○ California Statutes by number or keyword at <a href="http://www.legislature.ca.gov/port-statute.html">http://www.legislature.ca.gov/port-statute.html</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In search result, retrieves different versions of bill text, including introduced and amended, resolutions, constitutional amendments, and their status, history, votes, analyses, and veto messages</li> <li>▪ Detailed tips about bill searching in HELP tab at the bottom of the page</li> <li>▪ "Quotes" return exact phrases, Boolean operators and wildcard characters are used—see HELP tab</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search terms in the bill text</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF/ HTML</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <i>italic</i>; deleted text – <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law in Introduced bill</li> <li>○ Mark-up language in subsequent versions of the bill refers to amendments made to the language of the previous version of the same bill.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ After you have located the bill that you are looking for (in either search platform), you can subscribe to it by clicking the "subscribe" button at the bottom of the bill document page. A bill subscription will allow you to receive email updates regarding the status of any particular bill.</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The California State Legislature meets every year starting in January; session length varies by chamber and by even or odd years.</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Full time, Professional, (Red)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislators can serve 6 years in the House and 8 years in the Senate in their lifetime</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “Glossary” available on top menu bar of main legislative webpage</li> </ul> <p>CA Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bills must be introduced by the end of Feb. to be considered for current session.</li> <li>▪ Gut and Strip bills: Bill retains bill number but bill has a new title and contents.</li> <li>▪ There is no <i>official</i> code in CA, different versions on Westlaw/LexisNexis &amp; CA site can both be correct.</li> <li>▪ Assembly is able to stipulate that a bill pass contingent upon the passage of another bill.</li> <li>▪ File Analyses provide a 1-2 page synopsis that are great cheat sheets on each piece of legislation, available under bill versions in search results.</li> </ul>	

CO Colorado General Assembly			
Website	<a href="http://www.leg.state.co.us/">http://www.leg.state.co.us/</a>	Contact	comments.GA@state.co.us
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.leg.state.co.us/Clics/CLICS2009A/csl.nsf/MainBills?openFrameset">http://www.leg.state.co.us/Clics/CLICS2009A/csl.nsf/MainBills?openFrameset</a>	Years Covered	1997 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → select “Current Year” in top menu bar or “Current Regular Session Information” → top menu bar select “Search” (or “Search for a bill” under the searching box)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: → select “Prior Session” information link right above the searching box (or select “Prior Session” on the homepage) → select session of interest → top menu bar → select “Search”</li> <li>○ If you need to select a session (e.g. 2010) that falls after the session you are currently searching (e.g. 2009) then you need to return to the homepage</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.michie.com/colorado/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;cp">http://www.michie.com/colorado/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;cp</a></li> <li>▪ Click on folder in left menu that you are interested in searching, can select levels to search (all statutes or particular section)</li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ When retrieving a bill text, can access different versions of bills by clicking "All Versions" in search results, including introduced, revised, and engrossed bill. Bill history, fiscal notes, and committee reports are also available</li> <li>▪ "quotes" change search results, but the asterisk (*) wild card character does not change search</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - CAPITALIZE; deleted text – <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> <li>○ Shading denotes HOUSE amendment; double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manual bill tracking only, no subscription/email services available</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Colorado General Assembly meets every year starting in January for up to 120 calendar days.</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislators may only serve 8 consecutive years in the House and 8 consecutive years in the Senate</li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Video broadcasts were added to audio broadcasts of current proceedings</li> <li>▪ The Legislative Council has new separate website, committee activities are listed there: <a href="http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CGA-LegislativeCouncil/CLC/1200536135358">http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CGA-LegislativeCouncil/CLC/1200536135358</a></li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ General Assembly’s website is difficult to navigate</li> </ul>	

CT		Connecticut General Assembly	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.cga.ct.gov/">http://www.cga.ct.gov/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	(860) 240-0100, (860) 757-6590 webmaster@cga.ct.gov
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://search.cga.state.ct.us/dtSearch_lpa.html">http://search.cga.state.ct.us/dtSearch_lpa.html</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1988 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search link by bill number on top menu bar</li> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select “Search” → select type of search you want                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Basic or Advanced Search options available</li> <li>○ Change session: type year(s) of interest at the search box or leave blank for all years</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select “Statutes”</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://search.cga.state.ct.us/dtSearch_lpa.html">http://search.cga.state.ct.us/dtSearch_lpa.html</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Retrieves a variety of bill related documents including amendments, resolution, fiscal notes, and committee reports; better to select the document type first to get the most relevant result</li> <li>▪ “Help” tab in the search window provides detailed procedure how to search bills</li> <li>▪ Possible to have sophisticated search options by choosing “Advanced Search”; for example, Advanced Search has a "stemming" feature that finds grammatical variations on endings and acts like the asterisk (*) wild card character in searching</li> <li>▪ Uses "quotes" to search phrases; recognizes *</li> <li>▪ Highlights search terms in yellow</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text, added text: <u>underline</u> or <b>items in blue</b>; deleted: <b>[items in red font]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined</li> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → select “Bill Tracking” on top right side of the page</li> <li>▪ Or follow direct link: <a href="http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgapublicbilltrack/Register.aspx">http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgapublicbilltrack/Register.aspx</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Connecticut General Assembly meets every year starting in January ending in June on odd years and May on even years</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “Legislative References” tab (on left menu bar of homepage or top menu of internal pages) provides a wide range of legislative information - includes “Abbreviations and Acronyms” and “Terms and Definitions”</li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Advanced Search has been redesigned to be easier to use</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “Citizens Guide” tab with FAQs that answers a variety of questions</li> </ul>	

DE		Delaware General Assembly	
Website	<a href="http://legis.delaware.gov/">http://legis.delaware.gov/</a>	Contact	(302) 744-4308; <a href="mailto:ruthann.melson@state.de.us">ruthann.melson@state.de.us</a>
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://legis.delaware.gov/LIS/LIS145.nsf/home?openform">http://legis.delaware.gov/LIS/LIS145.nsf/home?openform</a>	Years Covered	1995 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search available in left menu bar</li> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select “Bill Tracking”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change sessions: “Bill Tracking” → left menu bar → select “Archives”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → “Items of Interest/Quick Links” → select “Delaware Code”</li> <li>▪ Or direct link: <a href="http://delcode.delaware.gov/">http://delcode.delaware.gov/</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provides both a summary of the bill and a full bill text, committee reports, and voting reports</li> <li>▪ Puts multiple words in "quotes"; recognizes the asterisk (*) wild card character</li> <li>▪ Highlight search term in green in the list of search result on the webpage, but not in the bill text</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format /MS word</li> <li>▪ Does not provide ‘Help’ menu for bill searching</li> <li>▪ Gives detailed information and history of bills when searching a full bill text                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not use symbols to change text, writes out to amend "(old text)" with "(new text)"                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Select “Amendments” to view amendments made to the introduced bill</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → scroll down → right menu → select “myLIS”</li> <li>▪ Or follow direct link: <a href="http://legis.delaware.gov/LIS/myLIS.nsf/home?openform">http://legis.delaware.gov/LIS/myLIS.nsf/home?openform</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Delaware General Assembly meets annually starting in January and ends on June 30<sup>th</sup></li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary: Homepage → left menu bar select “Legislative Info” → select “Legislative Terms”</li> <li>▪ Direct Link: <a href="http://legis.delaware.gov/legislature.nsf/lookup/Legislative_Terms?open&amp;nav=leginfo">http://legis.delaware.gov/legislature.nsf/lookup/Legislative_Terms?open&amp;nav=leginfo</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No changes since 12/09</li> </ul>	

FL		Florida Legislature	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Welcome/index.cfm">http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Welcome/index.cfm</a>	<b>Contact</b>	(850) 488-4371; (800) 342-1827; leg.info@leg.state.fl.us
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/bills.aspx">http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/bills.aspx</a> (House site, but able to search both chambers)	<b>Years Covered</b>	1997 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bill searching in the House (able to search both chambers)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Legislature homepage → left menu bar → select “House” → top menu bar → select “Bills”</li> <li>○ Change session using drop down menu</li> <li>○ “Search Tips” available by clicking “SEARCH BILL TEXT”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search on top menu bar of Legislature homepage</li> <li>▪ Legislature homepage → select “Statutes, Constitution &amp; Laws of Florida” on left menu → select “Search Florida Statutes”</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?Mode=Search%20Statutes&amp;Submenu=2&amp;Tab=statutes&amp;CFID=125680541&amp;CFTOKEN=17257595">http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?Mode=Search%20Statutes&amp;Submenu=2&amp;Tab=statutes&amp;CFID=125680541&amp;CFTOKEN=17257595</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can search both Senate and House bills at either Senate or House website</li> <li>▪ Retrieves bill history, amendments, and bill analyses in search results</li> <li>▪ Does not recognize “quotes”; recognizes asterisk* as a wildcard character</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format/ PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ web format: added text: <u>underlined in green</u>; deleted: <del>strikethrough in red font</del></li> <li>○ PDF format: added text: <u>underlined</u>; deleted: <del>strikethrough</del></li> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → select “House” → top menu bar → select “Legislative Tracking”</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/MyHouse/login.aspx">http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/MyHouse/login.aspx</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Florida Legislature meets annually starting in March for up to 60 calendar days</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Full time, Professional (Red-Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislators may only serve 8 consecutive years in the House and 8 consecutive years in the Senate</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary: Senate homepage → top menu bar → select “Reference” → select “Glossary”</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.flsenate.gov/Reference/Glossary">http://www.flsenate.gov/Reference/Glossary</a></li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can search legislation or statutes from either House or Senate website.</li> </ul>	

GA		Georgia General Assembly	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.legis.state.ga.us/">http://www.legis.state.ga.us/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	Senate Secretary: (404) 656-5040 House Clerk: (404) 656-5015 Legislative Council: (404) 656-5000
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/Search.aspx">http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/Search.aspx</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1995 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select “Search Legislation”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session by drop down menu</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → Georgia Government → select “Georgia Code”</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/gacode/Default.asp">http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/gacode/Default.asp</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Retrieves bill summary and history of the bills in search result</li> <li>▪ Recognize “quotes”, but not the asterisk (*) wild card character</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strike through</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manual bill tracking only, no subscription/email tracking services available</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Georgia General Assembly meets annually for up to 40 legislative days. Two year sessions start on even years.</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part time, Citizen, (Blue-Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ easier to search previous bills and change sessions</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No quick search link available</li> <li>▪ Recently updated search options available</li> <li>▪ No HELP menu available for bill searching</li> <li>▪ “Legislation” tab on top menu bar of General Assembly website gives step by step bill process.</li> </ul>	

HI		Hawaii State Legislature Website	
Website	<a href="http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/">http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/</a>	Contact	(808) 587-0478; par@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/site1/search/search.asp">http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/site1/search/search.asp</a>	Years Covered	1999 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search in right lower corner of the homepage</li> <li>▪ Homepage → right menu bar → select "Search" or "Bill Status &amp; Documents"                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: Right menu bar → select "Archives" → select a session of interest</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → select "Hawaii Revised Statutes"</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/site1/hrs/default.asp">http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/site1/hrs/default.asp</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In the search result, when clicking a bill status document, retrieves different versions of the bill, committee reports, or hearing notices and testimony</li> <li>▪ "Help and examples for searching" explains Boolean operators (and, or, "quotes", and *)</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes" and the asterisk (*) wild card character</li> <li>▪ Highlights search terms in bold letter in list of results but not in the bill text</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format/PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text - [<del>bracketed strikethrough</del>]                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manual bill tracking only, no subscription bill tracking services but HI does provide email notices of hearings.</li> <li>▪ Direct link to hearing notices subscription: <a href="http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/signup/">http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/signup/</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Hawaii Legislature convenes annually on the third Wednesday in January for up to 60 legislative days</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Definitions: Homepage → right menu bar → select "Legislative Information" → select Definitions for abbreviations and glossary of terms</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/site1/info/def/def.asp">http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/site1/info/def/def.asp</a></li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Confusing layout for bill searching—3 different ways of searching current and past bills</li> <li>▪ Can sign up to receive hearing notices and submit testimony online on "Bill Status and Documents" page</li> </ul>	

State of Idaho Legislature			
ID	Website	Contact	
	<a href="http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/">http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/</a>		(208) 334-2475 (ex.2); <a href="mailto:lsoweb@lso.idaho.gov">lsoweb@lso.idaho.gov</a>
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/legislation/2011/legIndex.htm">http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/legislation/2011/legIndex.htm</a>	Years Covered	1998 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search link on top right of homepage</li> <li>▪ Homepage → center of screen → select “Bill Center”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: select “Advanced Search” option below searching box → check box of past session(s) or “Prior Sessions” on the top menu provides the list of past sessions</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select “Statutes &amp; Rules” → select “Search Statutes and/or Constitution”</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/idstat.htm">http://legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/idstat.htm</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recognizes the asterisk (*) wild card character in search phrases</li> <li>▪ Highlights search terms in bold letter in list of results but not in the bill text</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text - <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MyBillTracker—create a free account for email updates</li> <li>▪ Homepage → Bottom of page → select “My Bill Tracker” photo icon</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://legislature.idaho.gov/MyBillTracker/Login_input.do">http://legislature.idaho.gov/MyBillTracker/Login_input.do</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Idaho Legislature convenes annually in January with no official limit on session length</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part time, Citizen, (Blue Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators. They were repealed in 2002 by the Legislature after being enacted in 1994</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary: Homepage → mid screen → select “Bill Center” → select “Glossary of Terms” link</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/legislation/2011/legIndex.htm">http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/legislation/2011/legIndex.htm</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Highlight changes in the bill text</li> <li>▪ New search engine</li> <li>▪ New bill tracker</li> <li>▪ Links to streaming video</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No ‘Help’ menu available for bill searching</li> <li>▪ Can search multiple years’ legislation at one time</li> </ul>	

IL Illinois General Assembly			
Website	<a href="http://www.ilga.gov/">http://www.ilga.gov/</a>	Contact	(217) 782-3944, <a href="mailto:webmaster@ilga.gov">webmaster@ilga.gov</a>
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.ilga.gov/search/Advanced_Search.asp?site=leg97">http://www.ilga.gov/search/Advanced_Search.asp?site=leg97</a>	Years Covered	1997 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → search by keyword, bill number or select “Advanced Search”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: Homepage → “Additional Resources” → select “Previous General Assemblies” → choose particular year by drop down menu select → “Go!” → “Legislation, Public Acts” → “Legislation &amp; Laws” → select “Search”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → select “Legislation &amp; Laws” → select “Compiled Statutes” → select “Search”</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.ilga.gov/search/iga_search.asp?scope=ilcs">http://www.ilga.gov/search/iga_search.asp?scope=ilcs</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Under quick search link on left menu, “Advanced Search” available for sophisticated searching options; provides good ‘Search Tips’ link under the text search</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes"; automatic stemming and synonyms allows search results for a few variations of words</li> <li>▪ Highlight search phrase in bold in the search result, but not in the text</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language in introduced version refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> <li>○ Mark-up language in subsequent versions of the bill refer to changes to the previous version of the bill and not existing law.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ My Legislation allows users to create and maintain multiple bill lists for tracking and obtaining reports on legislation</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select “My Legislation”</li> <li>▪ Or follow direct link: <a href="http://www.ilga.gov/mylegislation/">http://www.ilga.gov/mylegislation/</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IL General Assembly meets annually starting the second Wednesday in January and usually adjourns at the end of May but has no official limit on session length</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Full time, Professional, (Red Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Top menu bar → “Legislation &amp; Laws” → select “Legislative Glossary”</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/glossary.asp">http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/glossary.asp</a></li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Alternate search (a checkbox below the search boxes) is an old search engine that handles large documents with more ease than the newer Google powered search.</li> <li>▪ Inconvenient to search previous sessions</li> </ul>	

IN		Indiana General Assembly	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.in.gov/legislative/">http://www.in.gov/legislative/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	(317) 212-9856/ (317) 232-9856/ (317) 233-0696
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.in.gov/apps/lisa/session/billwatch/billinfo">http://www.in.gov/apps/lisa/session/billwatch/billinfo</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1997 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → “Session Information” → select “Bills &amp; Resolutions” → select “Overview”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: → bottom of left menu bar → “Archives” → select “Session” → select “Bills &amp; Resolutions” under the session of interest</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → bottom right menu bar → “View Indiana Code” search box</li> <li>▪ Or select type of law you want to view in left menu bar under “Laws”</li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In search result, retrieves different bill related documents but no information about bill status</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes", but not the asterisk (*) wildcard character</li> <li>▪ In search result, highlight search phrase in bold and when clicking ‘Cached’ link, it shows the bill text with search terms highlighted</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format</li> <li>▪ Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in <i>this style type</i> or <del>this style type</del> reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2009 Regular and Special Sessions of the General Assembly.</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <b>bold</b>; deleted text – <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IndianaNet, an online legislative reporting service of the Indiana Chamber of Commerce—paid subscription bill tracking available at <a href="http://www.indiananet.org/">http://www.indiananet.org/</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IN General Assembly met every other year until 1972, when it began meeting annually starting in January. Sessions end Apr 29 in odd years and Mar 14 in even years</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No, Governor does not have line-item power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part time, Citizen, (Blue Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Whole new website</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No detailed search tips available for searching legislative information</li> </ul>	

IA		Iowa Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.legis.iowa.gov">www.legis.iowa.gov</a>	Contact	(515) 281-5129; <a href="mailto:lioinfo@legis.state.ia.us">lioinfo@legis.state.ia.us</a>
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://search.legis.state.ia.us/NXT/gateway.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=default.htm&amp;vid=default">http://search.legis.state.ia.us/NXT/gateway.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=default.htm&amp;vid=default</a>	Years Covered	1995 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ QUICK SEARCH by keyword or bill number on left menu bar of homepage</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select "Legislation" → select "Keyword Search of Legislation" link → top right menu bar → "CHOOSE SEARCH FORM" dropdown box → select "Advanced Search" or "Boolean Search" in dropdown                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Current legislation: left menu bar → check "Current Legislation"</li> <li>○ Change session: left menu bar → check "Legislation Archives" → check session(s) of interest; retrieves vast amount of past legislative documents including past legislation, bill history and past codes</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select "Iowa Law &amp; Rules" → "Iowa Code" → select "Search the Iowa Code"</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://search.legis.state.ia.us/nxt/gateway.dll/ic?f=templates&amp;fn=default.htm">http://search.legis.state.ia.us/nxt/gateway.dll/ic?f=templates&amp;fn=default.htm</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can search a variety of legislative documents including amendment, resolution, bills sent to legislative/Governor's action</li> <li>▪ In search function, can find a bill by bill number, subject, legislator, or committee using drop down menu</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text - <del>strike through</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to code, session law, or previous versions of the bill. The lead in to the language in the text of the bill says what the changes reference.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select "legislation" → "Bill Tracking Tools" select "Bill /Code Watch".</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="https://coolice.legis.state.ia.us/secure/default.asp?Category=BillWatch&amp;Service=BWSignIn">https://coolice.legis.state.ia.us/secure/default.asp?Category=BillWatch&amp;Service=BWSignIn</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IA Legislature convenes each year in January for up to 110 calendar days in odd years and 100 calendar days in even years</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Link for Legislative Terminology: <a href="http://www.legis.iowa.gov/DOCS/Resources/LegislativeTerminology.pdf">http://www.legis.iowa.gov/DOCS/Resources/LegislativeTerminology.pdf</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New look and feel to website</li> <li>▪ Easier to get archival information on legislation, legislators, and committees</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Click "Iowa Legislature" logo in top left corner to return to homepage</li> <li>▪ No HELP menu on new site; old help link: <a href="http://www.legis.state.ia.us/help/internet/">http://www.legis.state.ia.us/help/internet/</a></li> <li>▪ BillBook shows all versions of bills and amendments, study bills, bill histories, fiscal notes, and sponsor information but, only able to search bill numbers—use it as a sophisticated bill tracking tool</li> </ul>	

KS		Kansas Legislature	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.kslegislature.org/li/">http://www.kslegislature.org/li/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	800-432-3919 (in Kansas), 785-296-3296 <a href="mailto:infodesk@kslib.info">infodesk@kslib.info</a>
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2011_12/year1/measures/">http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2011_12/year1/measures/</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1998 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select "BILLS &amp; LAWS" or select type from dropdown menu → filter current bills by number, type, chamber, or sponsor not able to search bills by keyword                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Text searching is not currently available on new website. However you can search text of past legislation on the Kansas Legislative Archive site</li> <li>○ Change session: Homepage → right menu bar → select "Kansas Legislative Archive" → select "Bills" → search by keyword on right or select session year to retrieve list of bills.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → scroll over "BILLS &amp; LAWS" → select "STATUTE"</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.kslegislature.org/li/statute/">http://www.kslegislature.org/li/statute/</a></li> <li>▪ This feature was not functioning in early 2011 but was working by 3/9/11</li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can search different legislative documents other than bills, including legislative journals, session laws, supplemental notes</li> <li>▪ In search result, retrieves only adopted legislation, but no different versions of the bill available</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes" and the asterisk (*) wild card character</li> <li>▪ Highlight search term in the search result, but not in the bill text</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <del>Stricken</del> text is proposed to be deleted from existing law</li> <li>○ <i>Italic</i> text is new language to be added to existing law</li> <li>○ <b>Bold</b> text denotes amendments added by House committees</li> <li>○ <b>[Bold Bracketed]</b> denotes amendments added by a House Committee of the Whole</li> <li>○ <b><i>Bold Italics</i></b> denotes amendments added by the Senate</li> <li>○ <b>[Bold Bracketed Italics]</b> denotes amendments added by a Senate Committee of the Whole</li> <li>○ <del>Stricken</del> or <del>Stricken Italics</del> denote deletions made by the chamber of origin</li> <li>○ <del>Double Stricken</del> or <del>Double Stricken Italics</del> denotes deletions by the chamber other than the chamber of origin</li> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law and prior versions of the bill.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ KS Legislature convenes each year on the second Monday of January, there is no official limit to session length in odd years and a 90 calendar day limit for even years</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part time, Citizen, (Blue Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No free service but fee-based available at: <a href="https://www.accesskansas.org/lobbyist/demo.html">https://www.accesskansas.org/lobbyist/demo.html</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New format and content introduced in early 2011</li> <li>▪ Site still under development—offer "Feedback" on far right of homepage</li> <li>▪ Use the legislative archive for bill searching: <a href="http://www.kansas.gov/government/legislative/">http://www.kansas.gov/government/legislative/</a></li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ "CURRENT HAPPENINGS" under "HOUSE" and "SENATE" tabs on top menu bar list happenings and recent updates in bills and resolutions</li> </ul>	

KY		Kentucky Legislature	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.lrc.ky.gov/">http://www.lrc.ky.gov/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	Bill Status Line (866) 840-2835 (in session only) Office of Public Information: (502) 564-8100 x307
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.lrc.ky.gov/search.htm">http://www.lrc.ky.gov/search.htm</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1997 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homepage → right menu bar → “Quick Links” → select “Search KAR, KRS, Bills”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To search legislation select a legislative record (year) from dropdown menu</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homepage → right menu bar → “Quick Links” → select “Search KAR, KRS, Bills”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KRS=Kentucky Revised Statutes, KAR=Kentucky Administrative Regulations</li> <li>To search statutes or regulations choose them from dropdown menu</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use quotes to return an exact search phrase—e.g. “physical education”</li> <li>Bill formats: MS word</li> <li>Shows changes in bill text: added text - <b><i>underlined bold and italic;</i></b> deleted text- <del>[bracketed and stricken]</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homepage → left menu bar → select "Legislation &amp; Legislative Record" → select “Bill Watch” link on the middle of the page</li> <li>Or follow direct link: <a href="http://kentucky.gov/services/pages/billwatch.aspx">http://kentucky.gov/services/pages/billwatch.aspx</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KY Legislature meets annually as of 2001. Sessions are up to 30 legislative days or by March 30 in odd years and are up to 60 legislative days or by April 15 in even years</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SCS=Senate Committee Substitute</li> <li>SCA=Senate Committee Amendment</li> <li>HFA=House Floor Amendment</li> <li>Glossary: Homepage → left menu bar → select “Organization &amp; Administration” → mid page → select “Legislative Process” → mid page → select “Glossary of Legislative Terms”</li> <li>Direct link: <a href="http://www.lrc.ky.gov/legproc/glossary.htm">http://www.lrc.ky.gov/legproc/glossary.htm</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added legislative branch expenditures</li> <li>Developed iPhone friendly website</li> </ul>	

LA		Louisiana State Legislature	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.legis.state.la.us/">http://www.legis.state.la.us/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	(225) 342-2456 weblegis@legis.state.la.us
<b>Bill Search Link</b>		<b>Years Covered</b>	1997 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search: scroll down homepage</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select "Search" tab / or scroll down homepage                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: easy to change session using drop down menu</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select "Louisiana Laws"</li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can search bills by bill number, keyword, legislator, or committee</li> <li>▪ "Search Tips" link next to the searching box explains Boolean Operator (And, Or, Near, or "quotes")</li> <li>▪ In search result, retrieves information about bill notes, history, status, and authors</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes" and the asterisk (*) wildcard character</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text - <del>strike through</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manual bill tracking only, no bill tracking service, but LA does provide an email notification of interim committee meetings</li> <li>▪ Follow direct link: <a href="http://doa.louisiana.gov/oes/listservpage/lcn_listserv.asp">http://doa.louisiana.gov/oes/listservpage/lcn_listserv.asp</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LA Legislature convenes every year in March for up to 30 legislative days within 60 calendar days in odd years and up to 60 legislative days in 85 calendar days in even years</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LA limits legislators to serving 12 consecutive years in the House and 12 consecutive years in the Senate</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary and Abbreviations: Homepage → left menu bar → select "About the Legislature" → scroll down to "Legislative Terms"</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Useful "How Do I...?" link on left menu bar of homepage.</li> <li>▪ The bill Digest records how the bill changed the law and is in the body of each bill after the bill text. After a bill becomes law the digest is a separate document.</li> </ul>	

ME		Maine State Legislature	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.maine.gov/legis/">http://www.maine.gov/legis/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	Legislative Info (207) 287-1692 Law Library (207) 287-1600 <a href="mailto:webmaster_legis@legislature.maine.gov">webmaster_legis@legislature.maine.gov</a>
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/default_ps.asp?PID=1456&amp;snum=124">http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/default_ps.asp?PID=1456&amp;snum=124</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1998 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search link available on top right</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top right → select "Bill Status" → choose "Search by Bill Text", "Advanced Search" or just search for bill by number in window provided                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session by using drop down menu in advanced search and text searching windows</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top right → select "Statutes" → select "Statute Search"</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/search.htm">http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/search.htm</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gives very useful information once bill is found, including amendments, status, actions, etc.</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes", but not the asterisk (*) wildcard character</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format / PDF/ MS Word</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text - <del>strike through</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law and amendments to amendments</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ME does not offer email alerts for bill tracking. The bill tracking link in bill search results allows you to manually track the bill process.</li> <li>▪ ME does provide advance email notification of Public Hearings                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Follow direct link: <a href="http://www.state.me.us/legis/senate/Documents/hearing/ANPHFrame.htm">http://www.state.me.us/legis/senate/Documents/hearing/ANPHFrame.htm</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ME Legislature meets every year starting in December with sessions ending in June of odd years and April of even years</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part time, Citizen, (Blue Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ME legislators can serve 8 consecutive years in the House and 8 consecutive years in the Senate</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary of Terms: <a href="http://www.mainelegislature.org/LawMaker/Web/glossary_of_terms.asp">http://www.mainelegislature.org/LawMaker/Web/glossary_of_terms.asp</a></li> </ul> <p>ME Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Joint Standing Committees: Members of both chambers serve on all committees (3 Senators and 10-11 Representatives)</li> <li>▪ Leave to Withdraw: A letter that is submitted to the president and speaker that asks to withdraw a bill</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Different visual appearance for different search forms (navigation takes you to different option than provided link)</li> </ul>	

MD		Maryland General Assembly	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://mlis.state.md.us/">http://mlis.state.md.us/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	(410) 946-5400 (Baltimore); (301) 970-5400 (D.C), <a href="mailto:libr@mlis.state.md.us">libr@mlis.state.md.us</a>
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://mlis.state.md.us/mgaweb/google.aspx">http://mlis.state.md.us/mgaweb/google.aspx</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1996 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bill Number: Homepage → mid screen → select "Bill information and Status" link or scroll down to "Bill Information and Status"</li> <li>▪ Bill Text: Homepage → mid screen → select "Search Site" link or scroll down on Homepage to "Search" and select "Google" link                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: → Select "Prior Session Information"</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → mid screen → select "Maryland Statutes" → select "Statute Text" or "Maryland Code Online" links</li> <li>▪ Statute/Code Searching Link: <a href="http://www.michie.com/maryland/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;2.0">http://www.michie.com/maryland/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;2.0</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Highlights search term in list of search results but not in bill text</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes" and asterisk* wildcard character</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF, Text available 2010 forward</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CAPITOLS indicate language added to existing law</li> <li>○ [Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law</li> <li>○ <u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to the bill</li> <li>○ <del>double strikethrough</del> indicates language deleted from the bill by an amendment or deleted from existing law by an amendment</li> <li>○ <i>Italics</i> indicate amendments made by the opposite chamber/conference committee amendments</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ "Bill indexes" → select "File Code" allows you to search for all bills on a general topic, e.g. Education</li> <li>▪ See Google search tips under text search</li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manual bill tracking only, no free subscription/email services available</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MD General Assembly meets for up to 90 calendar days starting in January</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No glossary of terms available</li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can watch or listen to a hearing, can listen to proceedings for prior years, can listen or watch a committee for current year</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hard to search bill text</li> </ul>	

MA		The General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts	
Website	<a href="http://www.malegislature.gov/">http://www.malegislature.gov/</a>	Contact	617-722-2356
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.malegislature.gov/Bills/Search">http://www.malegislature.gov/Bills/Search</a>	Years Covered	2009 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → “BILLS &amp; LAWS” → select “Bills”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: → Can change sessions from drop down menu in bill search                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No option for searching sessions before 2009</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → “BILLS &amp; LAWS” → select “Existing Laws” → choose between searching “General Laws,” “Session Laws,” or “Mass. Constitution”</li> <li>▪ Or follow direct link: <a href="http://www.malegislature.gov/Laws/Search">http://www.malegislature.gov/Laws/Search</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes"</li> <li>▪ Can only search text, Bill number search option did not produce results</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF/ HTML</li> <li>▪ Does not show changes in bill                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MA has a minimalist approach to bill drafting. All changes are just denoted with normal text.</li> <li>○ Bills are only reprinted when there are major amendments.</li> <li>○ To track the amendments that were made to a bill refer to the house journal or senate journal</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Shows options to view bill summary, bill history, bill text, and current status when specific bill is clicked on in search</li> <li>▪ Can search existing laws</li> <li>▪ Must scroll all the way to the bottom of the search page to view search results</li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manual bill tracking only, no subscription/email bill tracking services are available</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MA General Court meets every 72 hours, year-round in either formal or informal session to consider legislation</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Full Time, Professional, (Red Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators—repealed in 1997 by the MA Supreme Court</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MA legislature is called the General Court</li> <li>▪ Glossary: link located in upper right corner of each page</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.malegislature.gov/Site/Glossary">http://www.malegislature.gov/Site/Glossary</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New site, still under development (1/2011)</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Searchable legislation only dates back to 2009</li> <li>▪ Website works best with updated browser.</li> <li>▪ “Learn About...” section on right side of homepage offers online tours</li> <li>▪ “FAQs” link located top right corner of homepage</li> <li>▪ Includes site map link on search pages</li> </ul>	

MI		Michigan Legislature	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.legislature.mi.gov/">http://www.legislature.mi.gov/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	(517) 373-0630 Question/Comment Form: <a href="http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(kndc5n55h5ka kqemlavb52ah))/mileg.aspx?page=CommentForm">http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(kndc5n55h5ka kqemlavb52ah))/mileg.aspx?page=CommentForm</a>
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(1xld2e45ajtfqxy3cdvtzm45))/mileg.aspx?page=Bills">http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(1xld2e45ajtfqxy3cdvtzm45))/mileg.aspx?page=Bills</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1995 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search in middle of homepage by bill number or keyword</li> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select "Bills" → scroll down to Bill Search fields                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session from drop down menu</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ "Michigan Compiled Laws Search" in middle of homepage, or</li> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → "Laws" → select "Basic MCL Search"</li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ can get search tips by clicking the bubble symbol next to the search box</li> <li>▪ When click on specific bill it shows bill tracking/history</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes" and asterisk* wildcard</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF/ HTML</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ added text – new bills use <b>bold</b> to indicate new language, prior to electronic bill drafting CAPITOL letters were used to indicate new language</li> <li>○ deleted text has always been and remains denoted by <del>strike through</del>,</li> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law and previous versions of the bill</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → scroll down to "How do I..." → select "...get notified when a bill status changes?"</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(h2q2bty0ome2iiq1ukxovr55))/mileg.aspx?page=AboutNotification">http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(h2q2bty0ome2iiq1ukxovr55))/mileg.aspx?page=AboutNotification</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MI Legislature meets every year with no official limit on session length</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part Time, Citizen, (Blue Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislators are limited to 6 years in the House and 8 years in the Senate during their lifetimes</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary: Homepage → top menu bar → select "Help" → select "Glossary of Terms"</li> <li>▪ <a href="http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(0opy5p2de134zg45pq2nuxmq))/mileg.aspx?page=Glossary">http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(0opy5p2de134zg45pq2nuxmq))/mileg.aspx?page=Glossary</a></li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Question/Comment form answers came back the next day.</li> <li>▪ Website provides detailed information on searches and results</li> <li>▪ Help link located in top menu bar</li> </ul>	

MN		Minnesota State Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.leg.state.mn.us/">http://www.leg.state.mn.us/</a>	Contact	(651) 296-3398
Bill Search Link	<a href="https://www.revisor.mn.gov/revisor/pages/search_status/status_search.php?body=House">https://www.revisor.mn.gov/revisor/pages/search_status/status_search.php?body=House</a>	Years Covered	1995 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → middle of page → “Bill Search &amp; Status” → select either “Search House Bills” or “Search Senate Bills”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Keyword search                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To retrieve an exact phrase select the radio button for “Exact Phrase”, or use “ ” in the “Advanced” search</li> <li>▪ To search the text of Senate bills you must be in the Senate search page</li> <li>▪ To search the text of House bills you must be in the House search page   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use the hyperlink at the top of the search page to toggle to either the Senate or House.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Change session using drop down menu at the top of the search page</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → middle of page → “Statutes, Laws &amp; Rules” → do quick search by number or select option of interest</li> <li>▪ Statute Search Link: <a href="https://www.revisor.mn.gov/search/?search=stat">https://www.revisor.mn.gov/search/?search=stat</a></li> <li>▪ Statutes published in even years, can be amended in odd years</li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Selecting the “Both” radio button in the “Search by Bill Numbers” field does not allow you to text search both chambers.</li> <li>▪ “quotes” and the asterisk* wildcard only work when the “Advanced” search is selected</li> <li>▪ Search options above and below the text bar change search results</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF/ HTML</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strike through</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → middle of the page → “Bill Search and Status” → select “MyBills” to track House and Senate bills</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/billslogin.asp">http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/billslogin.asp</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MN Legislature meets annually beginning in January for a total of 120 legislative days within a two year period</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top of page → select “FAQ” link → select “Glossary of Terms”</li> <li>▪ Link to Glossary: <a href="http://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/faq/faqtoc.aspx?subject=18">http://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/faq/faqtoc.aspx?subject=18</a></li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Good information on searches and results</li> <li>▪ Help link located top right corner of page</li> </ul>	

<b>MS</b>		<b>Mississippi State Legislature</b>	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/">http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	(601) 359-3135 Reference Library (601) 359-3719 (in session) <a href="mailto:cpace@ls.ms.gov">cpace@ls.ms.gov</a>
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://index.ls.state.ms.us/index.html">http://index.ls.state.ms.us/index.html</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1997 – Current Session
<b>Legislation and Statute Searching</b>		<b>Information and Notes</b>	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → “Quick Lookup” available by bill number on bottom left homepage</li> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → scroll over “Bill Status” → select desired search option from popup menu                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: → scroll over "Bill Status" → select "Previous Session", or "Previous Session (Text Search)"</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → scroll over “General Information” → select “Mississippi Code of 1972” from popup menu</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://michie.com/mississippi/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;cp=">http://michie.com/mississippi/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;cp=</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can click on "Word Tense Conflation" to allow database to find different tenses and endings of the same root word</li> <li>▪ for search tips → check "Search Syntax" at bottom</li> <li>▪ Divides bill searches into “Not Dead Measures” or “All Measures”</li> <li>▪ DO NOT click "Bill Status" (a glitch)</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; three asterisks *** are inserted as a placeholder for deleted text. Cannot read deleted text in bill, you have to cross reference the MS codes/statutes to find it.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Committee amendment can appear as dashed underline or more frequently an entire Committee Substitute can be printed.</li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manual bill tracking only, no subscription/email alerts for bill tracking are available</li> <li>▪ Basic bill status information is available when you look up bills by their bill number (“Select a Measure”)</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MS Legislature meets annually for up to 90 calendar days starting in January. Except in the year after gubernatorial election when they meet for up to 125 calendar days</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part Time, Citizen, (Blue Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No glossary available</li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “Find your Legislator” (under “General Information”) added Summer 2010</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Help link located bottom of homepage links to PDF document with limited information</li> </ul>	

MO		Missouri General Assembly	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.moga.mo.gov/">http://www.moga.mo.gov/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	<a href="mailto:Charlotte.neuner@lr.mo.gov">Charlotte.neuner@lr.mo.gov</a> Legislative Library 573-751-4633
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.house.mo.gov/billcentral.aspx">http://www.house.mo.gov/billcentral.aspx</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1995 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu → select "Joint Bill Tracking" → enter the bill number, search phrase, or sponsor's name in the "Search:" field.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session by using drop down "Session:" menu, or select "Years prior to 2000" button</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu → select "Missouri Revised Statutes"</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.moga.mo.gov/statutesearch/">http://www.moga.mo.gov/statutesearch/</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In search result, retrieves diverse bill related documents – bill status &amp; history, summaries of different versions of the bill, and fiscal note</li> <li>▪ "Quotes" tend to limit your search too much, so leave them off or try both ways. Does not recognize wildcard characters (*) or Boolean language.</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search terms</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: HTML(summaries)/ PDF (full text)</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text – <b>bold</b>; deleted text - [brackets]                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Effective date on bill information means that <i>if</i> the bill passes it will be effective as of that date. It doesn't mean that the bill has or will pass.</li> <li>▪ 'HELP' tab in the search option explains tips for searching bills, but does not provide detailed information</li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manual bill tracking only, no email notification or personalized bill tracking available</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MO General Assembly meets annually starting in January, sessions end May 30</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislators are limited to serving 8 years in the House and 8 years in the Senate during their lifetime</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary: House → left menu bar → "General Information" → "The Legislative Process" → select "Glossary of Terms"</li> <li>▪ <a href="http://www.house.mo.gov/content.aspx?info=/info/glossary.htm">http://www.house.mo.gov/content.aspx?info=/info/glossary.htm</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Search function has been improved – easier to search and nice layout in search result (no advanced search available though)</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ FAQs link for general legislative questions</li> <li>▪ Bill always has to go through three versions, introduced, perfected, truly agreed and finally passed (TAFP)—there can be more versions but those are the minimum in order for a bill to pass the General Assembly.</li> </ul>	

MT		Montana Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://leg.mt.gov/css/default.asp">http://leg.mt.gov/css/default.asp</a>	Contact	(406) 444-3064; sfox@mt.gov
Bill Search Link (keyword)	<a href="http://legln.google.leg.mt.gov">http://legln.google.leg.mt.gov</a>	Years Covered	1999 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Search using LAWS (Legislative Automated Workflow System):                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Homepage → left menu bar → "Bills" → choose subcategory of "2011 Session", "Past Sessions", or "Finding Bills"</li> <li>○ Can search the database using one or more of the following search criteria: general subject matter, keywords (takes you to google-powered search), bill number, bill sponsor, and bill status (search fields cannot be edited)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → Left menu bar → select "Laws and Constitution" → select "Current Laws" or "Past Laws"</li> <li>▪ Direct link to Montana Code Annotated 2009: <a href="http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/index.htm">http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/index.htm</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ "Quotes" help return exact phrases.</li> <li>▪ Neither search option recognizes wildcard characters (e.g. *)</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: HTML and PDF (w/line numbers)</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language in introduced bill refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> <li>○ Mark-up language in subsequent versions reference changes to previous versions of the bill</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LAWS Preference Lists allow you to track groups of bills from the current session and receive email notification of hearing schedules.</li> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select "Bills" → select subcategory of "Finding Bills" → select "preference list" link in text of page</li> <li>▪ Or direct link to introductory page: <a href="http://leg.mt.gov/css/Sessions/62nd/laws_pref.asp">http://leg.mt.gov/css/Sessions/62nd/laws_pref.asp</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MT Legislature meets every other year on odd years for up to 90 legislative days starting in January</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No line item veto power. Gov may return bill to legislature with suggested amendments.</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part-time, citizen legislature (Blue)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Montana legislators may serve no longer than 8 years in a 16 yr period</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary available under "About the Legislature" on the left menu bar</li> <li>▪ Direct Link: <a href="http://leg.mt.gov/css/About-the-Legislature/glossary.asp">http://leg.mt.gov/css/About-the-Legislature/glossary.asp</a></li> </ul> <p>MT Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One of four state legislatures that only meet every 2 years</li> <li>▪ Only introduced bills have a sponsor. Bill drafts not yet introduced have a "requestor"</li> <li>▪ If a bill does not have an electronic link the text of the bill has not yet been prepared. This is a "requested" bill that has not yet been introduced</li> </ul>	

NE		Nebraska Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://nebraskalegislature.gov/">http://nebraskalegislature.gov/</a>	Contact	webmaster@leg.ne.gov
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/">http://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/</a>	Years Covered	1999 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search: Homepage → top right → “Search Current Bills”</li> <li>▪ General search: Homepage → Left menu bar → select "Bills and Laws" → select "Search Bills"                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Able to find specific bills and resolutions by number, date of introduction, introducer, committee, or keyword</li> <li>○ Searching by bill number: must know session number—only goes back to 100<sup>th</sup> or 2007/2008)</li> <li>○ Searching past legislation by keyword allows you to select legislative session (back to 1999) and document type</li> <li>○ Database searches all legislative documents.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search: Homepage → right menu → “Search Laws” by keyword/link to “Browse Statutes by Chapter”</li> <li>▪ Homepage → Left menu bar → select "Bills and Laws" → select "Search Laws"                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Search by laws by keyword or range of section numbers</li> <li>○ Direct link: <a href="http://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/laws.php">http://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/laws.php</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not recognize "quotes" or wildcard characters (e.g.*)—to return an exact phrase use a hyphen between words, e.g. physical-education functions like “physical education”</li> <li>▪ Highlights search term in list of results but not in the related PDF document</li> <li>▪ Bill format: PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Follow direct link: <a href="http://www.nebraska.gov/billtracker/">http://www.nebraska.gov/billtracker/</a></li> <li>▪ Able to track up to 15 bills for free or subscribe for a premium service.</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NE Legislature meets every year starting in January for up to 90 legislative days in odd years and 60 legislative days in even years</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gov has line item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Senators are term limited to 2 consecutive terms and must wait 4 yrs before running again.</li> </ul> <p>Changes to the Website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Transcripts of public hearings and floor debate are now included in the results for bill searches.</li> <li>▪ Dynamic calendar feature, which provides access to relevant legislative documents for the calendar date you click on.</li> <li>▪ The legislative news site has a new web address: <a href="http://update.legislature.ne.gov">http://update.legislature.ne.gov</a></li> </ul> <p>NE Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Nebraska Legislature is Unicameral, it only has one chamber. All legislators are called Senators</li> <li>▪ Bills in NE may only contain one subject</li> <li>▪ Most bills are introduced in first 10 days of legislative session.</li> </ul>	

NV		Nevada Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.leg.state.nv.us/">http://www.leg.state.nv.us/</a>	Contact	(775) 684-6827; <a href="mailto:library@lcb.state.nv.us">library@lcb.state.nv.us</a>
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Site/Search/Search.cfm">http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Site/Search/Search.cfm</a>	Years Covered	Bill text 1995 – Current Session Bill histories from 1985 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Easiest to follow direct link above, or</li> <li>▪ Homepage → bottom of page → select “Search” in bottom menu of links (or from header in internal pages) → scroll down → select “Bill Text” under desired session</li> <li>▪ Advanced text searching is available from bill search page (follow navigation above)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Enter your first word or phrase</li> <li>○ Select search operator (e.g. And, Or, etc.)</li> <li>○ Add subsequent terms</li> <li>○ Use up to 16 operators in a search phrase</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → bottom of page → select “Search” in bottom menu of links (or from header in internal pages) → “Law Library” select search of interest</li> <li>▪ Or follow direct link to NV Revised Statutes 2009: <a href="http://search.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS.html">http://search.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS.html</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not recognize "quotes" or wildcard characters, e.g.*</li> <li>▪ See “Tips for Searching” if you are having trouble</li> <li>▪ To change a session while searching text or by bill number you must backtrack and select a different session and reenter search terms.</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term in bills—use text searching feature in PDF to find topic of interest</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF/ HTML/ MS Word—newer bills are just in PDF format</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <b><i>bold italic</i></b>; deleted text - <del>bracket strikethrough</del>, <span style="color: red;">[prior to 1999 session brackets and red]</span> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Amended language will appear in other colors within amendment document until reprinted upon adoption of amendment. Then formatting is standard and only references changes to existing law</li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NV offers subscription service for personalized bill tracking with email updates, minimum subscription level, track 100 bills for \$250/session</li> <li>▪ Follow this link: <a href="https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/76th2011/Subscriber/">https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/76th2011/Subscriber/</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NV Legislature meets every other year on odd years beginning in February for up to 120 calendar days</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor does not have line item veto power.</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part-time, Citizen Legislature (Blue-Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislators elected after 1998 are limited to serving 12 years in the House and 12 years in the Senate during their lifetime</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No glossary of legislative terms available</li> </ul> <p>NV Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Committee hearing minutes (back to 1993) and exhibits available (back to 2003)</li> <li>▪ Library compiles bill histories for staff, agencies, and legislators once requested histories are scanned and made available online.</li> </ul> <p>Changes to the Website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NELIS—Committee exhibits will be available during or immediately after the meeting, if you are using NELIS to find bill information you need to know the title of the bill you are looking for</li> <li>▪ New redistricting pages</li> </ul>	

NH New Hampshire General Court			
Website	<a href="http://gencourt.state.nh.us/">http://gencourt.state.nh.us/</a>	Contact	House clerk: (603) 271-2548 Senate clerk: (603) 271-3420
Bill Text Search Link	<a href="http://gencourt.state.nh.us/index/default.html">http://gencourt.state.nh.us/index/default.html</a>	Years Covered	1989 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homepage → mid page → “State Legislation Dash Board” → select search of interest (advanced (status), quick, text search, etc.)</li> <li>Or Homepage → left tool bar → select “NH State Legislation”</li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homepage → bottom middle of page → “NH General Court Links of Interest” → select “NH State Laws (RSA’s)”</li> <li>Or follow direct link—<a href="http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/indexes/default.html">http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/indexes/default.html</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced bill status search                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Search by bill specifics (e.g. sponsor, title, number etc.)—must know a detail of the bill to use this feature.</li> <li>Does not function as a text search</li> </ul> </li> <li>Text search                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognizes "quotes" and wildcard characters (but not *--consult Help for specifics)</li> <li>Use "quotes" to return most relevant results for the exact phrase</li> <li>Click "Help" under text search for tips</li> </ul> </li> <li>Can change sessions in all search features by typing desired year</li> <li>Bill formats: HTML</li> <li>Shows changes in bill text: added text - <b><i>bold italic</i></b>; deleted text - <del>[bracket strikethrough]</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manual bill tracking only, no subscription/email alert tracking services available</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As of 1985 the NH Gen Court meets annually starting in January for up to 45 legislative days or to July 1</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gov. does not have line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part-time, Citizen Legislature (Blue)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LSR is a Legislative Service Request a three digit number that is retained until bill is introduced</li> <li>No glossary available</li> </ul> <p>NH Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NH Legislators are volunteers                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive \$100/yr for service.</li> <li>Sen. President &amp; House Speaker \$125/yr</li> </ul> </li> <li>400 Representatives; 24 Senators</li> <li>Largest legislature after the federal government.</li> <li>NH does not offer referendums</li> <li>Governor only serves two years</li> </ul> <p>Changes to the Website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bulk data sharing downloads for bill tracking by outside organizations</li> <li>Amendments are now available</li> <li>Coming soon...roll call votes</li> </ul>	

NJ		New Jersey Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/">http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/</a>	Contact	(609) 292-4840; <a href="mailto:leginfo@njleg.org">leginfo@njleg.org</a>
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/Default.asp">http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/Default.asp</a>	Years Covered	1996 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search by text or bill number                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Homepage → right side → yellow “Bill Search” field</li> <li>○ Easiest way to search; can change sessions and search by keyword, sponsor, etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Alternately: Homepage → Left menu bar → “BILLS” → select session of interest                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ From session page → select “Bill Number,” “Bill Sponsor,” “Bills in Committee,” “Keywords(s),” “Bill Subject,” or “Voting Records” to search each session’s bills</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → Left Menu Bar → “LAWS and CONSTITUTION” → select “Statutes”</li> <li>▪ Statute search direct link: <a href="http://lis.njleg.state.nj.us/cgi-bin/om_isapi.dll?clientID=37243686&amp;depth=2&amp;expandheadings=off&amp;headingswithhits=on&amp;info base=statutes.nfo&amp;softpage=TOC_Frame_Pg42">http://lis.njleg.state.nj.us/cgi-bin/om_isapi.dll?clientID=37243686&amp;depth=2&amp;expandheadings=off&amp;headingswithhits=on&amp;info base=statutes.nfo&amp;softpage=TOC_Frame_Pg42</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Database does not recognize " " or *-quotes and asterisk will return no results.</li> <li>▪ Can change sessions by drop down menu on quick search</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF/ HTML</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text - <b>[bold bracket]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language references changes to the previous version of the bill (not proposed changes to existing law)</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Provides the corresponding bill number for the previous session in search results</li> <li>▪ Provides a one sentence synopsis of the bill in the search results.</li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Available as a free service</li> <li>▪ Homepage → Left menu bar → “BILLS” → select “Bill Subscription Service”</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/bills/BillsSubscriptionLogin.asp">http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/bills/BillsSubscriptionLogin.asp</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NJ Legislature meets annually with no limit on session length.</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Full-time, Professional Legislature (Red-Light)—most legislators have other employment as well</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “Abbreviations and Acronyms” are provided under “help” in the top menu bar</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislativepub/help.asp#abbreviations">http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislativepub/help.asp#abbreviations</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No significant changes</li> </ul>	

NM		New Mexico Legislature	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/default.aspx">http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/default.aspx</a>	<b>Contact</b>	(505) 986-4600 <a href="mailto:lcs@nmlegis.gov">lcs@nmlegis.gov</a> (in session)
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/keyword.aspx">http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/keyword.aspx</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1996 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homepage → Left menu bar → “Legislation” → “Bill Finder”</li> <li>In "Bill Finder", can search by number, sponsor, locator reports, keywords, subjects, and capital outlay</li> <li>Change sessions by drop down menu after choosing the search option</li> <li>Search bar on top of the main page searches all documents related to site not just legislation—difficult to use to find legislation.</li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homepage → Left menu bar → “Other Resources” → “Statutes” → click “Statutes” link in middle of page</li> <li>Statute search direct link: <a href="http://www.conwaygreene.com/nmsu/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;2.0">http://www.conwaygreene.com/nmsu/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;2.0</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doesn’t recognize “quotes” or wildcard characters (e.g.*) and won’t return results if used</li> <li>Bill formats: PDF/ HTML</li> <li>Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text - <del>strickthrough bracket</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> <li>Search fields reset to current session each time—make sure desired session is selected</li> <li>Search doesn’t tell you when there are no results; screen blinks and looks the same.</li> <li>Keyword searching doesn’t always function correctly; call the information number to find out if it is currently functioning.</li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free subscription bill tracking</li> <li>Homepage → Left menu bar → Legislation → My Roundhouse</li> <li>Direct link: <a href="http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/myroundhouse/">http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/myroundhouse/</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NM legislature meets annually starting in January for up 60 calendar days in odd years and 30 calendar days in even years</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part-time, Citizen Legislature, (Blue-Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Key to Abbreviations” available under quick links on left menu bar</li> <li><a href="http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/abbrev.aspx">http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/abbrev.aspx</a></li> </ul> <p>Difficulties with NM Legislative Searching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sometimes keyword searching only searches the title of the bill rather than the full bill text. Efforts are being made to resolve this issue. For current functioning, call (505) 986-4600</li> </ul> <p>Changes to Website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both chambers now allow webcasting links on website. Senate started in 2009</li> <li>Both chambers now post final vote sheets on the final passage of bill.</li> </ul>	

NY		New York State Assembly	
<b>Senate Website</b>	<a href="http://www.nysenate.gov/legislation">http://www.nysenate.gov/legislation</a>	<b>Contact</b>	Assembly Public Info Dept (518) 455-4218 State Library (518) 474-5355
<b>Assembly Website</b>	<a href="http://assembly.state.ny.us/">http://assembly.state.ny.us/</a>		
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menuf.cgi">http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menuf.cgi</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1995-Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Searching Past or Current Legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Follow link above to Senate website → Left menu bar → “Legislative Search Issues?” → select “official Legislative Research Service website” link</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menuf.cgi">http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menuf.cgi</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session in top dropdown menu</li> <li>○ Search by bill number in provided field</li> <li>○ Search text (keyword): → “NYS Legislative Bills” link (below “Search” bar)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Select check boxes for all types of documents you want to see</li> <li>▪ Change session in dropdown menu</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Senate Homepage → bottom center screen → select “Click here to view the Laws of New York”</li> <li>▪ Statute search direct link: <a href="http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUERY=LAWS">http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUERY=LAWS</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Does not recognize "quotes", does recognize asterisk* as a wildcard.</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: HTML</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text on web browser is <u>underlined and green</u> when printed it is <i>italic</i>; deleted text on web browser is <del>stricken and red</del> when printed it is in [brackets]             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The new Senate website has a feature called Open Legislation, in search results it offers an option to receive an email notification any time there is an update to the bill’s information page</li> <li>▪ Bill Buzz is a feature that sends email updates about what users of the Open Legislation are saying about a piece of legislation             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Direct link: <a href="http://billbuzz.nysenate.gov/">http://billbuzz.nysenate.gov/</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NY Assembly meets annually beginning in January. No official limit on session length</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fulltime, Professional Legislature (Red)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No glossary of legislative terms available</li> </ul> <p>NY State Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is difficult to find how to search past legislation from the NY Assembly or NY Senate’s web pages. Our research team didn’t know it was possible until the 2011 revision of this search guide!</li> <li>▪ NY State Bill Jackets provide all comments on all legislation that passes the legislature available from 1995 on.</li> </ul> <p>Changes to Website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All new Senate website, still being constructed some still in beta (2/11)</li> <li>▪ No appreciable changes to Assembly website.</li> </ul>	

NC General Assembly of North Carolina			
Website	<a href="http://www.ncleg.net/">http://www.ncleg.net/</a>	Contact	Legislative Library (919) 733-9390
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/billsearch/billsearch.asp">http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/billsearch/billsearch.asp</a>	Years Covered	1985 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick Search:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Homepage or internal pages → page header → “SEARCH BILL TEXT” or “FIND A BILL” → select session from drop down menu → enter search phrase or bill # to right</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Detailed Searching:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Homepage → top menu bar → select "LEGISLATION/BILLS" → select type of search by clicking hyperlink.</li> <li>○ Change sessions by drop down menu under search</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select "LEGISLATION/BILLS" → “Law Bodies” → select “NC General Statutes”</li> <li>▪ Or follow the direct link: <a href="http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/statutes/Statutes.asp">http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/statutes/Statutes.asp</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Search tips available by clicking the '?' next to "Search" on text searching</li> <li>▪ “Bill Inquiry” option allows you to select and add search criteria to create a very specific search</li> <li>▪ Requires use of "quotes " or and/not to return results, Recognizes * as a wildcard character</li> <li>▪ Can search different versions of bills</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: HTML/ PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text: <u>underline</u>; deleted text: <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Able to sign up for NCGA’s list serve to receive emails of ratification, bill presentment, and chaptered sheets</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select "LEGISLATION/BILLS" → “Miscellaneous” → select first hyperlink “Sign up...via email”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Direct link: <a href="http://www.ncleg.net/documentsites/Ratified%20Bill%20Info/Email%20Notification.html">http://www.ncleg.net/documentsites/Ratified%20Bill%20Info/Email%20Notification.html</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NC General Assembly holds a longer session starting in January of odd years and a shorter session in even years with no official limit on session length</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor does not have line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Top menu bar → select “ABOUT NGA → Educational Resources box on right → select “Glossary of Legislative Terms”</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/Help/KnowledgeBase/viewItem.pl?sCategory=Glossary">http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/Help/KnowledgeBase/viewItem.pl?sCategory=Glossary</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to the Website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Changed the look for the new session but content is the same</li> </ul> <p>NC Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Committee Minutes are only a synopsis not verbatim transcripts</li> </ul>	

ND		North Dakota Legislative Assembly	
Website	<a href="http://www.legis.nd.gov/">http://www.legis.nd.gov/</a>	Contact	(701) 328-2916
Bill & Statute Search Link	<a href="http://www.legis.nd.gov/dtsearch/">http://www.legis.nd.gov/dtsearch/</a>	Years Covered	2003 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top right corner → select “SEARCH” → left menu bar → input search phrase in “Enter Search Request” field                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: → “Where to Search” scrolling menu below the searching box → select session of interest and document type among Bills/Resolutions, Journals, Fiscal Data, and Session Laws</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top right corner → select “SEARCH” → left menu bar → input search phrase in “Enter Search Request” field → select “Century Code” from “Where to Search” scrolling menu</li> <li>▪ Link to Code and Session Laws: <a href="http://www.legis.nd.gov/dtsearch/">http://www.legis.nd.gov/dtsearch/</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Search tips right on search page how to and different types of searching (stemming and natural language)</li> <li>▪ "quotes" does not change search results, but the asterisk (*) wild card character change search</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text - <del>strike through</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lead-in language will let you know what the underlined and stricken text refers to</li> <li>○ Sometimes a bill will have no underscore but a caption in all CAPITAL LETTERS—this is a hint to the code writer that this is temporary law—and should not be put into code</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Session laws also include overstrikes and underscores. Contains everything legislature has done (bills, constitutional amendments, and resolutions)</li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All subscription services available for ND                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="http://www.legis.nd.gov/information/services/">http://www.legis.nd.gov/information/services/</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ North Dakota University provides a bill tracking service for a fee                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Direct link: <a href="https://lbts.nodak.edu/">https://lbts.nodak.edu/</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislative Assembly convenes in January of odd-numbered years for sessions up to 80 legislative days.</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part Time, Citizen, (Blue)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No glossary of legislative terms available</li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Session quick links</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Not able to search by bill number</li> </ul>	

OH		Ohio General Assembly	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/">http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	Legislative Information Office: (614) 466-8842 <a href="mailto:webmaster@lis.state.oh.us">webmaster@lis.state.oh.us</a>
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/search.cfm">http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/search.cfm</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1997 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search available from the main page for text and bill number of current legislation</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select “Search for Legislative Information” → scroll down till you find type of search you want                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: select session of interest under search box, not able to select multiple sessions</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → select “Search for Legislative Information” → search Code either by scrolling down or select “Search Ohio Revised Code” from the left menu bar</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://codes.ohio.gov/orc">http://codes.ohio.gov/orc</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bill search by bill number, keyword, or sponsor by scrolling down</li> <li>▪ No search tips available, but “Search Descriptions” describes the many types of searches</li> <li>▪ In search result, retrieves different bill documents and comprehensive bill information</li> <li>▪ Does not recognize "quotes" , does recognize the asterisk (*) wild card character</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format/ PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strikethrough</del> (in older legislation new language was placed in CAPITOLS                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manual bill tracking only, no email alert service available</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Ohio General Assembly convenes in January every year with no official limit on session length</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Full Time, Professional, (Red Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislators may serve 8 consecutive years in the House and 8 consecutive years in the Senate</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary of Terms direct link: <a href="http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/glossary.cfm">http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/glossary.cfm</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New design for senate website</li> </ul> <p>OH Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ OH bills tend to be very long because all changes to existing law are shown within the context of the entire section of law.</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Able to search for Lobbyists</li> <li>▪ Guidebook for Ohio Legislators provides in depth information on legislature: <a href="http://www.lsc.state.oh.us/guidebook/default.htm">http://www.lsc.state.oh.us/guidebook/default.htm</a></li> </ul>	

OK		Oklahoma Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.oklegislature.gov/">http://www.oklegislature.gov/</a>	Contact	House: (405) 521-2711 Senate: (405) 524-0126 <a href="mailto:webmaster@lsb.state.ok.us">webmaster@lsb.state.ok.us</a>
Bill Search Link		Years Covered	1991 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → scroll over “LEGISLATION” → select search type from dropdown menu                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bill number search: select "Basic Bill Search" from dropdown menu; only searches current session</li> <li>○ Keyword search: select "Search Text of Measures" from dropdown menu                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Change session: → click "search for measures from previous years" link on text search page → input search terms in the search field corresponding to session of interest</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → scroll over “LEGISLATION” → select “Search Oklahoma Statutes and Constitution” from dropdown menu                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Search by section number or keyword</li> <li>○ “Tips for searching” link at bottom of page</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.oklegislature.gov/tsrs_os_oc.aspx">http://www.oklegislature.gov/tsrs_os_oc.aspx</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Searching by bill number retrieves a detailed bill history and supporting documents</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes," but not the asterisk (*) wild card character</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: MS Word</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text - <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Build a Personal Bill Tracking list in Advanced Bill Search—gives you all information for bills you want to track (up to 20)—does not send email alerts</li> <li>▪ LENS: Homepage → bottom of page → “Track Bills” select → “Create Account”—creates notification by email                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Direct link: <a href="http://www.oklegislature.gov/EBillTrack/Signup2.aspx">http://www.oklegislature.gov/EBillTrack/Signup2.aspx</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Oklahoma Legislature meets annually starting in February and sessions the last Friday in May</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ OK legislators may serve a total of 12 years in either/both chambers during their lifetime</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cannot find a glossary on the newly revised website—there used to be one.</li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New website launched mid February 2011</li> <li>▪ Video of session now available</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No quick search options available</li> <li>▪ Searching options are not uniform; hard to navigate</li> </ul> <p>OK Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Majority of bills go to Conference Committee.</li> </ul>	

OR		Oregon State Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.leg.state.or.us/">http://www.leg.state.or.us/</a>	Contact	(503) 986-1000; <a href="mailto:help.leg@state.or.us">help.leg@state.or.us</a>
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.leg.state.or.us:8765/">http://www.leg.state.or.us:8765/</a>	Years Covered	1995 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search available on right of homepage</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select “Bills/ Laws” → select “Search Bills and Laws” link in top right                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Keyword search: → select “Full Measure Text Search of the bills and laws” link in top left                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Change Session: under text search by check box of session(s) of interest;</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Bill number search: → select “Search Measures by Specific Measure Number” link in top left                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Change Session: under bill number search by drop down menu from current to year 1999</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select “Bills/ Laws” → mid page → select “Oregon Revised Statutes” link → scroll down → select “Search the Oregon Revised Statutes”</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/home.htm">http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/home.htm</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Retrieves different versions of the bill but can’t tell what they are until you read the text                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Results not listed by bill number—look at http address below result to find bill number</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes" and the asterisk (*) wild card character</li> <li>▪ Highlights search terms in the search result, but not in the bill text</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format / PDF</li> <li>▪ Show changes in bill text: Matter within {+ braces and plus signs +} is new. Matter within {- braces and minus signs -} is existing law to be omitted.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manual bill tracking only</li> <li>▪ Email subscription for news on legislature and committees                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="https://service.govdelivery.com/service/multi_subscribe.html?code=ORLEG">https://service.govdelivery.com/service/multi_subscribe.html?code=ORLEG</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Data available for download:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Raw data on OR measures available for download on an ftp site and is updated each evening</li> <li>▪ Homepage → select “Bills/ Laws” on top of page → scroll to bottom and select “Measure/Committee Information Available on the Legislative FTP site”</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ OR Legislature convenes annually in February for up to 160 calendar days in odd years and 35 calendar days in even years.</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators, OR Supreme Court repealed in 2002</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ OR refers to pieces of legislation as measures</li> <li>▪ Glossary: Right menu bar → select “Citizen’s Guide” → select “How to Participate” → select “Glossary of Legislative Terms”</li> </ul> <p>OR Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Since the OR House is split evenly this session they have co-speakers, co-chairs and co-vice chairs</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Helpful “FAQs” and “Citizen’s Guide” links on right menu bar, but no search tips available</li> <li>▪ The text search page is poorly formatted, have to scroll across screen to find check boxes for previous sessions</li> </ul>	

PA		Pennsylvania General Assembly	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.legis.state.pa.us/">http://www.legis.state.pa.us/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	House Chief Clerk's Office 717-787-2372 Secretary of the Senate 717-787-5920 webmaster@legis.state.pa.us
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/session.cfm">http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/session.cfm</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1971 - Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search by number or keyword on top right of homepage</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select "Session Info" → scroll down to select search option                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Diverse search options available: bill search by bill number, keyword, topics, or reports</li> <li>○ "Getting Started with Searching" under keyword search provides helpful search tips</li> <li>○ Change sessions: use drop down menu</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → mid page → "Law Information" → select area of interest e.g. "Consolidated Statutes of Pennsylvania"</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/LI/Public/cons_index.cfm">http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/LI/Public/cons_index.cfm</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not recognize "quotes," but the asterisk (*) wild card character</li> <li>▪ Retrieves different versions of bills and detailed bill history for each bill in search results</li> <li>▪ In "Hits Highlights," highlights search terms in the bill text</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format / MS Word/ PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ [Brackets] enclose language to be removed from existing law; <u>underline</u> denotes language to be added to existing law; (***) ellipses with asterisks are placeholders for existing law that's not to be changed</li> <li>○ <del>Strikethrough</del> denotes amendment removing text from a previous version of the bill; CAPITAL LETTERS denote amendment added to the previous version of the bill.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Email updates available</li> <li>▪ Home → "Find..." → "Legislation" → select "Daily Session Activity by Email" link</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/DSU/subscribe.cfm">http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/DSU/subscribe.cfm</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Pennsylvania General Assembly meets annually in January with no official limit on session length</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Full Time, Professional, (Red)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Search Who's my Legislator by address now</li> <li>▪ Can now look at consolidated statutes</li> <li>▪ Co-sponsorship memoranda-can look at cosponsor memos by date, member, or subject keyword search</li> </ul> <p>PA Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Able to search legislation back to 1971!</li> <li>▪ Many legislators try to amend multiple titles (pieces of law) within a single bill, however the PA constitution only allows for a single title being amended within a bill. The PA courts have told the legislature to only include a single title in a bill.</li> </ul>	

RI		Rhode Island General Assembly	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/">http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	<a href="mailto:webteam@rilin.state.ri.us">webteam@rilin.state.ri.us</a> State Library (401) 222-2473
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/search/search.asp?SearchWhere=/Billtext09/">http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/search/search.asp?SearchWhere=/Billtext09/</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1997 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick site search available on top right of homepage</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select "Legislation" → select "Bill Status/History" (current session only) or "Bill Text"                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session for text search: → "Search Through" drop down menu under search field</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select "Legislation" → mid page → select "The State of Rhode Island General Laws" → select "Search"</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/search/search.asp?SearchWhere=/Billtext11/">http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/search/search.asp?SearchWhere=/Billtext11/</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bills are abbreviated with only one letter e.g. H5009 or S0282</li> <li>▪ Lists of bills available by selecting "House Bill Text" or "Senate Bill Text" below the "Search" button in the text search window</li> <li>▪ Has "Searching Tips" at bottom of text search box.</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes," but not the asterisk (*) wild card character</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF/ web format</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text – <u>underline in blue</u>; deleted text – <del>strikethrough in red</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manual bill tracking only, no subscription service available. The Secretary of State's office used to provide bill tracking several years ago but no longer does.</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Rhode Island General Assembly meets annually in January with no official limit on session length (will end late June of 2011)</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor does not have line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part Time, Citizen, (Blue Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Link to General Assembly Terms: <a href="http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Genmenu/GenMisc/genterms.html">http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Genmenu/GenMisc/genterms.html</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ First year that legislative votes on internet as they occur.</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provides comprehensive bill status/history information &amp; daily introduced bills</li> <li>▪ Easy to search: All Search functions in one place very convenient</li> </ul> <p>RI Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No committee transcripts or hearing minutes except for house finance committee which is on video tape</li> </ul>	

SC South Carolina Legislature			
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.scstatehouse.gov/">http://www.scstatehouse.gov/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	<a href="mailto:lpits@scstatehouse.gov">lpits@scstatehouse.gov</a> SC State Library (803) 734-8026
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://www.scstatehouse.gov/cgi-bin/query.exe?first=FIRST&amp;querytext=&amp;category=L&amp;egislation&amp;session=118">http://www.scstatehouse.gov/cgi-bin/query.exe?first=FIRST&amp;querytext=&amp;category=L&amp;egislation&amp;session=118</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1975 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “Quick Search” available on right of homepage by bill number, text, etc.</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → "Current Legislation" → select search of interest below “Search Current Legislation”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change Session: Homepage → top menu bar → select “Archives” → select “Legislation since 1975”                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can search all sessions at once or one at a time</li> <li>▪ Can also search current legislation from Archive</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → “SC Code of Law” → select search method</li> <li>▪ Previous versions available in Archives (top menu bar)</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.scstatehouse.gov/cgi-bin/query.exe?first=FIRST&amp;querytext=&amp;category=Code">http://www.scstatehouse.gov/cgi-bin/query.exe?first=FIRST&amp;querytext=&amp;category=Code</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can scroll through bills using search term arrows</li> <li>▪ In search result, gives different versions of the bill and detailed bill history</li> <li>▪ Searching tips available by clicking "Help" under search bar</li> <li>▪ Put &amp; between search phrases to find documents that contain both the words, otherwise retrieves the exact phrase, recognizes % as wildcard character</li> <li>▪ Highlights search terms in the bill text</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking System:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select “Bill Tracking &amp; Reports”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Allows users to keep track of personalized list of bills and to receive e-mail notifications when changes are made to legislative documents</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ South Carolina Legislature convenes each year in January and ends by the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in June—session can be extended by a 2/3 vote</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ PDF includes a glossary of terms on pg 14: <a href="http://www.scstatehouse.gov/html-pages/Booklet_2010_14thedition.pdf">http://www.scstatehouse.gov/html-pages/Booklet_2010_14thedition.pdf</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Added links for amendment history</li> <li>▪ Vote history added for roll call voting</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The website provides extensive publications and materials for research</li> </ul> <p>SC Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Three readings in each chamber before legislation becomes law</li> </ul>	

SD		South Dakota Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://legis.state.sd.us/">http://legis.state.sd.us/</a>	Contact	(605) 773-3251, <a href="mailto:jim.fry@state.sd.us">jim.fry@state.sd.us</a>
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://legis.state.sd.us/sessions/2010/TextSearch.aspx">http://legis.state.sd.us/sessions/2010/TextSearch.aspx</a>	Years Covered	1997 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search in middle of homepage</li> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → "Current Legislative Session" → select "Bills" from popup menu → left menu bar → select "Text Search" or "Quick Find"</li> <li>▪ "Advanced Search" option available from text searching function allows you to search all past sessions at once or select those of interest                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change Session: Homepage → left menu bar → select "Past Sessions" → select session of interest → left menu bar → scroll over "Bills" → select search of interest                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Look of website changes if you select a session before 2009. You can search all available sessions from "Advanced Search"</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → select "Codified Laws" → "Statute Quick Find" or "Text Search"</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/index.aspx">http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/index.aspx</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Brief search tips appear under search bar</li> <li>▪ Provides different versions of bills &amp; detailed bill history in search results</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes" and the asterisk (*) wild card character</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web format / PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → select "My Legislative Research" → Log-in → select "Bills"</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://legis.state.sd.us/mylrc/index.aspx">http://legis.state.sd.us/mylrc/index.aspx</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Can receive emails on tracking new versions of bills of interest or hearing schedules</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ South Dakota Legislature meets annually starting the second Tuesday of January for up to forty legislative days</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part Time, Citizen, (Blue)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislators may serve 8 consecutive years in the House and 8 consecutive years in the Senate</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No glossary of terms available</li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Appropriations committee makes all documents available in OneNote format</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ HELP link at the very bottom of the page provides detailed overview of searching legislative information</li> </ul>	

TN		Tennessee General Assembly	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.legislature.state.tn.us/">http://www.legislature.state.tn.us/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	Legislative Information Services (615) 741-1552 <a href="mailto:webmaster@capitol.tn.gov">webmaster@capitol.tn.gov</a>
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/apps/billsearch/BillSearch.aspx">http://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/apps/billsearch/BillSearch.aspx</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1995 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search available on bottom left of homepage</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → scroll over “LEGISLATION” → select “Bill Search” from dropdown menu → search by bill number or select “Advanced Search”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change Session: top menu bar → “LEGISLATION” → select “Archives” from dropdown menu → select session of interest → select “Bills and Resolutions”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → bottom menu bar → select “Legislative Links” → right menu → select “Tennessee Code”</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.michie.com/tennessee/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;cp=tncode">http://www.michie.com/tennessee/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;cp=tncode</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In search result, retrieves detailed bill history and diverse legislation documents; click bill number to see the bill text</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes," but not the asterisk (*) wild card character</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF</li> <li>▪ Does not use any symbols to change text, writes out to delete "old text" and substitute "new text" and “Amendments on Bill”</li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Track unlimited bills</li> <li>▪ Homepage → “Legislation” → select “My Bills”</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/apps/mybills/Login.aspx">http://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/apps/mybills/Login.aspx</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Tennessee General Assembly convenes in January odd years for organizational session of no more than 15 calendar days. Thereafter, the General Assembly sets the date for convening the regular session for 90 legislative days over the two-year assembly period.</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary of terms available from “Help &amp; FAQs” on bottom menu bar</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.capitol.tn.gov/about/glossary.html">http://www.capitol.tn.gov/about/glossary.html</a></li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Able to search bills and resolutions separately under keyword search</li> <li>▪ Doesn’t list number of search results</li> <li>▪ 2009 Online Democracy Award from NCSL</li> </ul>	

TX		Texas Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.legis.state.tx.us/">http://www.legis.state.tx.us/</a>	Contact	(512) 463-1252, <a href="mailto:lrl.service@lrl.state.tx.us">lrl.service@lrl.state.tx.us</a>
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.legis.state.tx.us/Search/BillSearch.aspx">http://www.legis.state.tx.us/Search/BillSearch.aspx</a>	Years Covered	1993 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search on top middle of homepage by bill number or keyword</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → “Search” select search of choice on dropdown menu                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session in “Legislature:” drop down menu next to the searching box</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Top menu bar → “Search” → select “Texas Statutes”</li> <li>▪ Statute Search direct link: <a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can choose different bill versions or documents in the search option</li> <li>▪ Detailed search tips available by clicking on the “?” link at the searching box</li> <li>▪ In search results clicking the bill number retrieves bill text with highlighted search terms; clicking an icon box left of the bill number retrieves extensive bill history and documents</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: PDF/ web format / MS Word</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strike through</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ My TLO offers a range of personalized services</li> <li>▪ Top menu bar → select “My TLO” → select service of interest</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.legis.state.tx.us/MnuMyTLO.aspx">http://www.legis.state.tx.us/MnuMyTLO.aspx</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Texas Legislature meets in a regular session every two years, convening on the second Tuesday in January of every odd-numbered year. These biennial sessions are limited to 140 days.</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary: Homepage → blue box on right → “Legislative Process” → select “Glossary”</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.tlc.state.tx.us/gtli/glossary/glossary.html">http://www.tlc.state.tx.us/gtli/glossary/glossary.html</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New mobile features</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Offers extensive legislative information in search results</li> <li>▪ Legislative Reference Library provides useful legislative information: <a href="http://www.lrl.state.tx.us">http://www.lrl.state.tx.us</a></li> </ul>	

UT		Utah State Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.le.state.ut.us/">http://www.le.state.ut.us/</a>	Contact	(801) 538-1032
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.le.state.ut.us/asp/billsintro/index.asp">http://www.le.state.ut.us/asp/billsintro/index.asp</a>	Years Covered	1997 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “Quick Bill Search” for current and past sessions available by number or keyword on right menu bar</li> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select or scroll over "Bills" → select "Keyword Search"</li> <li>▪ Change session: → drop down menu in quick search or scrolling menu in keyword search</li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select or scroll over "Utah Code/Constitution" → select search of interest</li> <li>▪ Direct Link: <a href="http://le.utah.gov/Documents/code_const.htm">http://le.utah.gov/Documents/code_const.htm</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not highlight search terms</li> <li>▪ Easy to search bills, but does not allow you to search multiple words</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: HTML/ PDF/ WP zipped</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text - <del>bracket strikethrough</del>, this mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> <li>○ <b>H</b> is written on either side of a proposed House amendment and <b>S</b> on either side of a proposed Senate amendment</li> <li>○ Amendments to bills are in <b>blue</b> if they are Senate amendments and <b>red</b> if they are House amendments</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bill Tracking by number Link: <a href="http://le.utah.gov/asp/billtrack/track.asp">http://le.utah.gov/asp/billtrack/track.asp</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ On left of homepage → select bills → select tracking service, enter HB or SB and number</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Bill Tracking by Code Title/Chapter/Section: <a href="http://le.utah.gov/asp/billtrack/section.asp">http://le.utah.gov/asp/billtrack/section.asp</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bill Tracking can be done by searching and selecting a bill → clicking the status/votes link</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Utah Legislature meets annually for up to 45 calendar days beginning in January</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part Time, Citizen, (Blue)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators—they were repealed in 2003 by the Legislature</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → Citizens Guide → select “Glossary”</li> <li>▪ <a href="http://le.utah.gov/documents/aboutthelegislature/glossary.htm">http://le.utah.gov/documents/aboutthelegislature/glossary.htm</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can search by subject under bill search</li> <li>▪ Create Interim Committee reports, 2009 on</li> <li>▪ Website changed to DTSearch</li> <li>▪ Cosmetic changes to Senate and House sites</li> <li>▪ Offers upcoming agendas</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Citizens Guide on left menu bar has many helpful resources including FAQ</li> <li>▪ Currently have UT’s first women speaker of the House</li> </ul>	

VT		The State of Vermont Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.leg.state.vt.us/">http://www.leg.state.vt.us/</a>	Contact	(802) 828-2231
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.leg.state.vt.us/ResearchMain.cfm">http://www.leg.state.vt.us/ResearchMain.cfm</a>	Years Covered	1993 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → Center of page → “Legislative Research” → select " Search for Bill by Sponsor or Keyword” or “Research Bill Status and read text” if you know the bill number                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Full text search: select sponsor/keyword option (as above) → select brown “Full-Text Search of Bills” link below search fields</li> <li>○ Or select “Main Legislative Research Page” for more options</li> <li>○ Change session: → select “Change Session” link from search pages → select session on left menu bar of “Main Legislative Research Page” → reselect type of search you want</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → “Vermont Statutes Online” → select “Vermont Statutes” → select type of search you want</li> <li>▪ Statute Link: <a href="http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutesMain.cfm">http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutesMain.cfm</a> →select full-text search page</li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not recognize "quotes" or wildcard characters. Treats any two words as an exact phrase unless AND or OR are used to expand the search                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Search tips at bottom of full text search page</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Provides different versions of bills, including bills introduced and amended</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search terms</li> <li>▪ Bill format: PDF, some years HTML and MS Word available</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strike through</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manual bill tracking only, no subscription/email bill tracking available</li> </ul> <p>VT Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ House deadlines: Requests for bill drafts must be submitted by the last day of Jan. Bills must be introduced by the last day of Feb. Short-form bills may be requested and introduced at any time during the session.</li> <li>▪ Senate deadlines: There are no Senate deadlines for introduction of bills</li> <li>▪ VT does not use the term “but not limited to”, will use the term “including”</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Vermont Legislature meets annually starting in January and meets each Tuesday through Friday during session through late April. The adjournment date varies from year to year but session generally completed in 16 to 17 weeks.</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor does not have line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part Time, Citizen, (Blue Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No glossary of legislative terms available</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Helpful FAQ on left menu bar or direct link: <a href="http://www.leg.state.vt.us/misc/faq2.htm">http://www.leg.state.vt.us/misc/faq2.htm</a></li> <li>▪ Provides bills according to the process of policy formation</li> <li>▪ No quick search available</li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cosmetic changes to homepage</li> <li>▪ 2009 forward bills offered in PDF, prior to 2009 offered in HTML only</li> <li>▪ Live audio streaming of House and Senate proceedings by VT public radio, no archives</li> <li>▪ Some occasions offer video streaming (e.g. a controversial hearing)</li> </ul>	

VA		Virginia General Assembly	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://legis.state.va.us/">http://legis.state.va.us/</a>	<b>Contact</b>	(804) 698-7410; (804) 698-1470 (in session only)
<b>Bill Search Link</b>	<a href="http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?111+men+SRB">http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?111+men+SRB</a>	<b>Years Covered</b>	1994 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search on left menu bar</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select "Legislative Information System" → left menu bar → select "Bills &amp; Resolutions" under "SEARCHABLE DATABASES"                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: (from LIS page) → left menu bar → select "OTHER SESSIONS" dropdown menu / scroll down to "ACROSS SESSIONS" and select option to search all sessions at once</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select "Legislative Information System" → left menu bar → select "Code of Virginia"</li> <li>▪ Code Search Link: <a href="http://lis.virginia.gov/000/src.htm">http://lis.virginia.gov/000/src.htm</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recognizes " " and *</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search terms</li> <li>▪ Provides examples on how to refine search</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: HTML/ PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added language is in <i>italics</i> deleted text – <del>strikethrough</del>,                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> <li>○ amendments use substitutes that don't indicate previous version of bill</li> <li>○ if only a few lines are amended will show previous version in brackets</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Links to code of VA in blue</li> <li>▪ Free bill tracking with Lobbyist-in-a-Box, must register</li> <li>▪ Provides quick link for bill tracking with detailed guiding information</li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lobbyist in Box Free Service—track up to five bills or subscribe for more</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://lis.virginia.gov/h015.htm">http://lis.virginia.gov/h015.htm</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The General Assembly meets annually, beginning on the second Wednesday in January for up to 60 calendar days in even years and 30 calendar days in odd years</li> </ul> <p>Governor's veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ VA publishes pocket glossaries that are available to order but no online glossary</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provides "Visitor's Guide" and "Citizen's Guide" tabs to search for legislative information</li> <li>▪ Help drop list located on homepage, includes "Live Help" chat</li> <li>▪ Click on "VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY" in header to return to homepage</li> </ul>	

WA		Washington State Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.leg.wa.gov/pages/home.aspx">http://www.leg.wa.gov/pages/home.aspx</a>	Contact	(360) 786-7573; <a href="mailto:support@leg.wa.gov">support@leg.wa.gov</a>
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/">http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/</a>	Years Covered	1985 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select “Bill Information” link                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To search most recent 3 sessions: select the tab for the session of interest and either search by bill number or select “Search the full text of a bill” link below the search field</li> <li>○ To search legislation back to 1985: → select “Search the full text of a bill” link below the search field → select “Advanced Search” link in the blue-green search box → left lower menu → expand “Previous Biennia” → expand session of interest → select documents you wish to search (a red magnifying glass will appear over it—when you deselect the magnifier remains but is smaller and blue) → enter search phrase in “Keyword Search:” field</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select “Find Laws &amp; Rules” tab</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://www.leg.wa.gov/pages/home.aspx">http://www.leg.wa.gov/pages/home.aspx</a></li> <li>▪ Also able to search text of RCW and WAC from the two bill search functions above—Advanced Search allows you to select specific chapter etc.</li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bill searching by number, keywords or brief description</li> <li>▪ Recognizes " " and * in Advanced Search function</li> <li>▪ Provides information (information button link to the right of the search box) on the meaning of a bill number</li> <li>▪ Provides a great deal of useful information on the bill (under "Bill Information")</li> <li>▪ Does not highlight search term</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strike through</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → select “Bill Information” link → select “Bill Tracking” (make sure 2011-2012 tab is selected at top)</li> <li>▪ Direct Link: <a href="https://dlr.leg.wa.gov/user/login.aspx">https://dlr.leg.wa.gov/user/login.aspx</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ WA Legislature meets annually starting in January for up to 105 calendar days in odd years and 60 calendar days in even years</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intermediate, (White)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators, WA Supreme Court repealed term limits in 1998</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RCW = Revised Code of Washington</li> <li>▪ WAC = Washington Administrative Code</li> <li>▪ WSR = Washington State Register</li> <li>▪ Glossary under Help on top menu bar</li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bill status report available in real time</li> <li>▪ Changes to search features are promised in 2012</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Multiple options for searching legislation and documents—this can be confusing</li> <li>▪ Good homepage layout</li> <li>▪ Legislative Information Center helpful</li> <li>▪ Help link located at top of page</li> <li>▪ FAQ Link: <a href="http://www.leg.wa.gov/Help/Pages/FAQ.aspx">http://www.leg.wa.gov/Help/Pages/FAQ.aspx</a></li> </ul>	

WV		West Virginia Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.legis.state.wv.us/">http://www.legis.state.wv.us/</a>	Contact	(304) 347-4836
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://www.legis.state.wv.us/bill_status/bill_status.cfm">http://www.legis.state.wv.us/bill_status/bill_status.cfm</a>	Years Covered	1993 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search in lower left of homepage</li> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → select “Bill Status”—all bill search options are contained on this page                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change sessions: use dropdown list</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → bottom menu bar → select “WV Code”</li> <li>▪ Direct Link: → <a href="http://www.legis.state.wv.us/WVCODE/code.cfm">http://www.legis.state.wv.us/WVCODE/code.cfm</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reports most relevant results and omits redundant results</li> <li>▪ Recognizes "quotes " but not wildcard stemming characters (e.g. *)</li> <li>▪ See “Search Hints” link below main search field</li> <li>▪ Advance search available from search results</li> <li>▪ Does highlight search terms when select cached version</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: HTML</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text - <u>underline</u>; deleted text – <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → top menu bar → scroll over “Bill Status” → select “Bill Tracking”</li> <li>▪ Bill Tracking Link: → <a href="http://www.legis.state.wv.us/billstatus_personalized/persbills_login.cfm">http://www.legis.state.wv.us/billstatus_personalized/persbills_login.cfm</a></li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ WV Legislature convenes annually starting in January for up to 60 calendar days</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Part Time, Citizen, (Blue Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary: top menu bar → scroll over “Educational” → select “Citizen’s Guide” → right menu bar (bottom) → select “Legislative Terms”</li> <li>▪ <a href="http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Educational/citizens/terms.cfm">http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Educational/citizens/terms.cfm</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Today in the Legislature- blog summarizing daily legislative activities.</li> <li>▪ Wrap-up electronic newsletter contains summaries of bills and other actions.</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ FAQ Link: <a href="http://www.legis.state.wv.us/FAQs/FAQ.cfm">http://www.legis.state.wv.us/FAQs/FAQ.cfm</a></li> </ul> <p>WV Particularities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lower Chamber is called the House of Delegates</li> </ul>	

WI		Wisconsin State Legislature	
Website	<a href="http://www.legis.state.wi.us/">http://www.legis.state.wi.us/</a>	Contact	608-266-0341; Hotline: (800) 362-9472
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=default.htm&amp;d=billhist&amp;jd=top">http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=default.htm&amp;d=billhist&amp;jd=top</a>	Years Covered	1995 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quick search in left menu bar by “Proposal Type” and “Proposal Number” for all years</li> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → scroll over “Legislation” → select “Bill Search” from popup menu → top menu bar → select “SEARCH FORM” tab → select document types to search in left menu or expand each type to select subcategories                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Change session: → left menu bar → select “Prior Sessions”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can search statutes in the same database as legislation (see navigation above) or separate database, see below</li> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → scroll over “Wisconsin Law” → select “Statutes”</li> <li>▪ Link to statutes: <a href="http://legis.wisconsin.gov/rsb/stats.html">http://legis.wisconsin.gov/rsb/stats.html</a></li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recognizes “quotes”—useful in “Quick Find”; “Boolean Search” uses wildcard characters</li> <li>▪ Boolean and Advanced search available (select link in top menu bar of search page)</li> <li>▪ Provides different versions of bills, including introduced and amended</li> <li>▪ Bill formats: web formats, PDF</li> <li>▪ Shows changes in bill text: added text: <u>underline</u>; deleted text: <del>strikethrough</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Homepage → left menu bar → scroll over “Legislation” → select “Bill Notification”</li> <li>▪ Bill Tracking Link: <a href="http://notify.legis.state.wi.us/Home.aspx">http://notify.legis.state.wi.us/Home.aspx</a> (must register)</li> <li>▪ Sends email updates on bills being tracked</li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ WI Legislature meets annually starting in January with no legal limit on session length</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Full Time, Professional, (Red Light)</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No term limits for legislators</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glossary of Terms: Homepage → left menu bar → “Other Information” → select “Glossary of Legislative Terms”</li> <li>▪ Direct link: <a href="http://notify.legis.state.wi.us/Jargon.aspx">http://notify.legis.state.wi.us/Jargon.aspx</a></li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Easy to change sessions</li> <li>▪ FAQs link on far right of top menu bar</li> <li>▪ Can search bill text using Advanced or Boolean searching</li> </ul>	

WY Wyoming State Legislature			
Website	<a href="http://legisweb.state.wy.us/">http://legisweb.state.wy.us/</a>	Contact	(307) 777-7881
Bill Search Link	<a href="http://legisweb.state.wy.us/lsoweb/session/BillsInfo.aspx">http://legisweb.state.wy.us/lsoweb/session/BillsInfo.aspx</a>	Years Covered	2001 – Current Session
Legislation and Statute Searching		Information and Notes	
<p>Bill Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current Session: Homepage → scroll down to “2011 General Session” → select “2011 Bill Tracking Information”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No text search for legislation only, several types of bill lists are available. Use search bar in top menu bar as text search—returns all types of documents on site.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Change session: Homepage → left menu bar → select “Session Archives” → select session of interest                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As above, no text search for legislation only...</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statute Search Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homepage → left menu bar → select “State Statutes and Constitution”</li> <li>Statutes link: <a href="http://legisweb.state.wy.us/LSOWeb/wyStatutes.aspx">http://legisweb.state.wy.us/LSOWeb/wyStatutes.aspx</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The annotated statutes are very slow to load—you may have to wait about a minute or so for folders and subcategories to appear once you have selected them.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Search box at top of legislature’s web pages will also return results for statutes</li> </ul> <p>Search Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bill formats: PDF/ web formats</li> <li>Shows changes in bill text: added text: <u>underline in red</u>; deleted text: <del>strikethrough in blue font</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark-up language refers to proposed changes to existing law and prior versions of the bill</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bill Tracking Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manual bill tracking only, no subscription/email services available                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bill Tracking: Homepage → scroll down to “2011 General Session” → select “2011 Bill Tracking Information” → select bill status report (shows status of all current legislation)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>Session Length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WY Legislature meets annually starting in January for up to 40 legislative days in odd years and 20 legislative days in even years</li> </ul> <p>Governor’s veto:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governor has line-item veto power</li> </ul> <p>Type of Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part Time, Citizen, Blue</li> </ul> <p>Term Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No term limits for legislators, the WY Supreme Court repealed in 2004</li> </ul> <p>Terminology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Glossary link: <a href="http://legisweb.state.wy.us/LSOWeb/glossary.aspx">http://legisweb.state.wy.us/LSOWeb/glossary.aspx</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to website since 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audio broadcasts for the 2011 session available</li> </ul> <p>General Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No legislation specific text searches available</li> <li>No quick search available</li> </ul>	