Research Refresher: Statutes & Legislative History

I. Ask a Librarian
   • Your firm’s library: librarians can be your best friend when you need help!
   • Goodson Law Library (http://www.law.duke.edu/lib): open Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. over the summer. Call, e-mail, IM or find us on the web/Facebook.

II. Finding Federal Bills and Statutes
   • Lexis (http://www.lexisnexis.com/lawschool/): Legal>Federal Legal-U.S.>Find Statutes, Regulations, Administrative Materials & Court Rules>United States Code Service (USCS) Materials (includes the USCS, Popular Names Table, and U.S. Statutes at Large)
   • Westlaw (https://lawschool.westlaw.com): Useful databases include USCA (United States Code Annotated), USCA-POP (Popular Name Table), and USCAAN (United States Code Congressional & Administrative News)
   • HeinOnline’s United States Code Database (http://library.duke.edu/metasearch/db/id/DUK00693): Provides PDF versions of the United States Code from 1925-present
   • Thomas (http://thomas.loc.gov): Library of Congress website that provides the full text of bills dating back to 1989, and Bill Summary & Status information from 1973-present

III. Federal Legislative History Materials
   • Duke Federal Legislative History Research Guide (http://www.law.duke.edu/lib/researchguides/fedleg): frequently updated guide featuring easy-to-use table of contents and comprehensive information on both print and electronic legislative history resources
   • HeinOnline’s U.S. Federal Legislative History Library and U.S. Congressional Documents Library (http://library.duke.edu/metasearch/db/id/DUK00693):
   • Lexis (http://www.lexisnexis.com/lawschool/):Legal>Federal Legal-U.S.>Find Statutes, Regulations, Administrative Materials & Court Rules>Legislative History Materials
   • Westlaw (https://lawschool.westlaw.com): LH and FED-LH databases
   • LexisNexis Congressional (http://library.duke.edu/metasearch/db/id/DUK00841): Select full-text includes Congressional reports from 1995-present, and PDFs for hearings from 1800s-present
   • Thomas (http://thomas.loc.gov): “All Congressional Actions” portion of Bill Summary & Status information useful for determining what legislative history materials exist for a particular law, and will link to any available reports and debates (generally 1994-present)

IV. State Legislative History Materials
   • Look at Websites of State-specific Law Libraries and Legislative Libraries
   • Westlaw (https://lawschool.westlaw.com): STATE-LEGHIST database