

Resources

More resources:

Another excellent non-partisan source of information about the positions and voting records of your legislators is Project Vote Smart. Vote Smart is dedicated to providing a non-partisan, non-profit, independent, objective, reputable, thorough and mission-oriented resource for our democracy. The site is user friendly and easy to use. Vote Smart also offers the opportunity for volunteers and interns to contribute to the information available.

Project Vote Smart

Still another excellent non-partisan source of information about the work of the Congress is OpenCongress. OpenCongress describes itself in this way:

"OpenCongress brings together official government data with news articles, blog coverage, and public comments to give you the real story behind what's happening in Congress."

"OpenCongress is a free, open-source, non-profit, and non-partisan web resource with a mission to help make Congress more transparent and to encourage civic engagement. OpenCongress is a joint project of the Sunlight Foundation and the Participatory Politics Foundation

OpenCongress

How laws are made:

Anyone looking for a basic outline of the numerous steps of our federal lawmaking process from the source of an idea for a legislative proposal through its publication as a statute would be well served

to start with this guide from the Library of Congress. The guide will enable readers to gain a greater understanding of the federal legislative process and its role as one of the foundations of our representative system.

Library of Congress guide to how our laws are made

The Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution:

The Archives of the United States have on line materials to research the making of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Read the text of these great documents. Study the Bill of Rights and other amendments to the Constitution, those which passed and those which did not pass. Explore the development of our democracy, the abolition of slavery and the struggle to secure equality for women, African Americans and other minorities.

Archives of the United States

Record of Votes in the Congress:

Recorded votes of every member on each roll call vote in the House are available on the Web from the Clerk of the House site. They are kept by Roll Call Number and are posted shortly after the conclusion of each roll call vote.

Clerk of the House
Roll Call Vote Record