

How does a bill become a law?

The legislative process begins as an idea by either a constituent or a member of the House or Senate. After this, a sometimes difficult process of committee meetings, debate, and votes in both the House and Senate begins. This is followed by either approval or a veto by the President of the United States. To see the full process in detail, [visit this House guide](#) on the legislative process.

Where can I research a bill?

The best site to find information on a bill is [THOMAS database](#) on the Library of Congress' website. Here you can see the entire text of a bill, its sponsors and cosponsors, and where it is in the legislative process.

You can find bills that Rep. West has sponsored in this session of Congress [here](#) and a list of legislation he has co-sponsored [here](#).

House Schedule

[The House of Representatives work calendar](#) can show you when Congress is in session, on recess, or participating in a constituent work week. It is published by the House Majority Leader.

To see what bills are being debated and hearings are being held, please [click here](#).

House Proceedings

On the Clerk of the House of Representatives' website you can find [archived video](#) of past sessions, while on [C-SPAN's website](#) you can see streaming video of current proceedings on the House floor.

For a transcript of House floor proceedings, you can consult the [Congressional Record](#) . At this link you will find information about the Record, as well as copies for the most recent sessions of Congress.

Votes

The Clerk of the House of Representatives keeps a record of how Members of Congress vote when voting electronically. A list of these roll call votes for both current and past sessions of Congress can be found [here](#) .