



SEARCHING BY WORD/PHRASE IN BILLS

ADVANCED SEARCH: Use of Native InQuery: Structured Searches (Examples of Boolean, Proximity and Fielded Searches)

To search by word/phrase, simply type your search word(s) or phrase into the search box, e.g.

hazardous materials transportation

The InQuery search system brings back results in relevance-ranked order **based on the search words entered**. For more comprehensive retrieval, you may do an additional search on synonymous terms or phrases. For example, the search

capital punishment

would bring to the top of the results list bills containing that phrase, but not bills which referred to this concept only as the "death penalty." To find additional relevant items, perform another search on

death penalty

By default, the search you type into the search box will be run against the text of all bills in the database for that Congress. However, you may elect to limit your search to the text of House or Senate bills, to bills for which floor action has occurred, or to the text of enrolled bills.

The InQuery search system will present, in ranked order, a brief display of the first 100 most-relevant items which match the search criteria. One hundred items is the default; you may elect to see more or fewer bills by adjusting the number in the "Maximum Number of Items to Be Returned" box, up to 2,000. If fewer than 100 items match the search criteria, then all of the items will be displayed.

By selecting the link entitled "List of Bills by Bill Type," you may also elect to "browse" a sequential numerical listing of bills by bill type. Because House bills (H.R.) and Senate bills (S.) are the most numerous, they are presented in ranges of 100 bills. After viewing the records for 100 of the same type of bill, you can continue viewing the next group of 100 by pressing the Forward button at the bottom of the page.

For an explanation of search results, including bill versions, see Interpreting Search Results.

For an explanation of relevance-ranking in the search InQuery search system, see InQuery and Relevance-Ranking.



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