

SOURCES OF COMPILED LEGISLATIVE HISTORIES:

*A Bibliography of Government Documents,
Periodical Articles, and Books
1st Congress–114th Congress*

Fourth Edition

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Dedication

This Fourth Edition of *Sources of Compiled Legislative Histories* is dedicated to its original author and creator, my beloved friend and mentor the late Nancy P. Johnson. Nancy had a somewhat unexplainable and, now that I think about it, rather intense love of legislative history research. Thus, she did a lot of it. She was our “go to” person for difficult legislative history questions on both federal and state law when I worked for her at the Georgia State University College of Law Library in Atlanta. So it is fitting and quite natural that her seminal work be all about federal legislative histories.

Sources was first released in 1979, and Nancy single-handedly produced its entries for each federal legislative session for thirty-five years until 2014. It is only now, while preparing this Fourth Edition for publication and working with Jenna Fegreus, that I realize how very difficult and time-consuming this work really is. It is not straightforward at all, and it necessarily calls for endless little professional judgment calls in order to characterize the nature of particular sources and the usefulness of each publication. It is subjective and messy, just like the practice of law. This work requires an author to be confident and courageous as well as decisive and meticulous. These are all words I attribute to Nancy, and I rarely if ever attribute these characteristics to myself. Yet, here we are. Just as she did in life, Nancy is stretching me and nurturing me and helping me to discover and cultivate talents that I never knew I possessed.

It is an incredible privilege to be given the opportunity to continue the work to which Nancy P. Johnson devoted most of her professional life. With my co-author Jenna Fegreus to keep me honest and organized, I hope that we can make both Nancy and her husband Bill Johnson proud. Finally, we also wish to thank our research assistants, Andrea-Gale Okoro and Eric Mason, without whom this project would not be what it is.

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