

## GUIDE TO LOCATING CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE PRINTS

Committee Prints are the result of research done by, or at the request of, Congressional committees. The information that is gathered from these research activities, and other information of value, is often published as "Committee Prints". Committee prints are particularly good for statistical and historical information, and for legislative analysis.

Even though many Committee Prints are published, they are difficult to learn about or to obtain. They are generally viewed as internal background information publications and often are not announced for public distribution. Many do not receive a committee serial number. The Senate has a numbering system for its Committee Prints but the House does not.

### Finding Committee Prints Online

\* The government website: <http://gpoaccess.gov/cprints/index.html> has searchable fulltext from the 105<sup>th</sup> Congress (1997) to date.

\* Lexis Nexis Congressional: [web.lexis-nexis.com/congcomp](http://web.lexis-nexis.com/congcomp) has a searchable index from 1830 to date. The search must be done either from campus or via the proxy server. Select Advanced search to limit the search to Congressional Prints only.

### Finding Committee Prints in Paper Format

The *CIS Index* (KF49 C62--Reference) is the principal means of finding Committee Prints. In addition to Committee Prints, the *CIS Index* classifies as prints a variety of committee and special office publications.

There are two approaches to locating references to Prints in the *CIS Index*:

1. Using the "Index" volume
2. Using the "Abstract" volume

### 1. Using the *CIS Index* **Index** volume

- a. Search for the topic of your print in the Index volume under "Index of Subjects and Names."
- b. Record the *CIS* accession number
- c. Turn to the *CIS* accession number in the Abstract volume.
- d. Scan the entries for the designation "PRINTS".
- e. Most of the Prints held by the Library are on fiche.
- f. To find your Print on microfiche, find the location of *CIS* microfiche in the "Microfiche List" on the Reference Desk.
- g. Go to the *CIS* microfiche cabinets and find the appropriate year.
- h. Locate the correct fiche by the *CIS* accession number which is in the upper-right-hand corner of the fiche.
- i. In addition, Senate Prints can also be located by Print number. To do this:
  - Turn to the back of the "Index" volume of the *CIS Index* for the appropriate year and find the "Index of Senate Print Numbers."
  - Use the committee print number to find the corresponding *CIS* accession number. (Record it.)
  - Follow preceding steps, f. - i.

### 2. Using the *CIS Index* **Abstract** volume

- If you know the issuing committee, browse through the Abstract volume looking for that committee. (The Abstract volume is organized alphabetically by Committee within House and Senate sections.)
- Scan item headings for "Prints."
- Record the *CIS* accession number for the Print that you want.
- To find the fiche, use the above steps f. - i.

### Prints in Hardcopy

Some Prints can be found on hardcopy. To do this, type the exact title (found in the *CIS* abstract) in the online catalog. There, if we have it, you will find the location and call number.