

Legislation

"All legislative Powers" granted to the Federal government by the Constitution, as stated in Article I, Section I, are vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Legislation referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry:

(Note: these links exit the U.S. Senate web site, and connect directly to the Library of Congress' Thomas search results)

[Current Session \(110th Congress\)](#)

[Previous Sessions: \(109th\) \(108th\) \(107th\) \(106th\) \(105th\) \(104th\) \(103rd\) \(102nd\) \(101st\) \(100th\) \(99th\) \(98th\) \(97th\) \(96th\) \(95th\)](#)

[Search for current legislative activity by bill number.](#)

Compilations of agricultural law are an unofficial listing alphabetically and by subject of public laws enacted.

Several thousand bills and resolutions are referred to committees during each 2-year Congress. Committees select a small percentage for consideration, and those not addressed often receive no further action. The bills that committees report help to set the Senate's agenda.

When a committee or subcommittee favors a measure, it usually takes four actions.

First it asks relevant executive agencies for written comments on the measure.

Second, it holds hearings to gather information and views from non-committee experts. At committee hearings, these witnesses summarize submitted statements and then respond to questions from the senators.

Third, a committee meets to perfect the measure through amendments, and non-committee members sometimes attempt to influence the language.

Fourth, when language is agreed upon, the committee sends the measure back to the full Senate, usually along with a written report describing its purposes and provisions.