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Hint: **"civil rights"** searches the phrase "civil rights" but **civil rights** searches "civil" AND "rights"

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What's New?

115th Congress Histories: 442 Histories Loaded

■ **PL115-397**, The culmination of nearly two years of hearings and discussion, the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act aims to strengthen sexual harassment protections for employees of the Federal government and extends those protections to interns and other unpaid employees of the legislative branch. The act further eliminates the mandatory "cooling off" period previously required before a victim could formally pursue a harassment complaint, requires that members of Congress be held personally liable for

CITATION CHECKER:

input a number in any field to retrieve the equivalent numbers

Public Law Number Statute at Large Citations Enacted Bill

PL90-351 82 Stat. 197 90 H.R. 5037
 66 Stat. 14, Chap: 82

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FEATURED LAW:

PL111-148, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Enacted March 23, 2010, PL111-148, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was the most comprehensive Federal reform of the U.S. healthcare system since the creation of the Medicare program nearly 35 years before. Viewed as the signature domestic policy achievement of the Obama administration and colloquially referred to as "Obamacare," after President Barack H. Obama, the act was passed following years of effort to address a variety of interrelated issues that were placing increasing strain on the nation's health care system. The result is a complex law with provisions addressing (among other things) precipitously rising healthcare costs, medical coverage for individuals with preexisting medical conditions, and the disproportionate costs of insuring young, healthy individuals in comparison to older individuals with more health problems.

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Enacted March 23, 2010, PL111-148, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) was the most comprehensive Federal reform of the U.S. healthcare system since the creation of the Medicare program nearly 35 years before. Viewed as the signature domestic policy achievement of the Obama administration and colloquially referred to as "Obamacare," after President Barack H. Obama, the act was passed following years of effort to address a variety of interrelated issues that were placing increasing strain on the nation's health care system. The result is a complex law with provisions addressing (among other things) precipitously rising healthcare costs, medical coverage for individuals with pre-existing medical conditions, and the disproportionate costs of insuring young, healthy individuals in comparison to older individuals with more health problems.

Passage of the PPACA was the culmination of a dizzyingly complex history of congressional action aimed at reforming healthcare in the United States. The legislative history for PL111-148 brings this history together, allowing the researcher to track the development of these disparate initiatives over the years. Related bills, congressional hearings, as well as numerous congressional reports and debates recorded in the Congressional Record are all aggregated to track the process of enacting this complex legislation.

SEARCH WITHIN TIPS:

Use the ‘search within’ feature to quickly delve into a law and gain insights into a law’s development and possible legislative intent. For example, search “‘mandate’ NEAR ‘religious’” to narrow down the 408 publications within the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) history to 15.

The screenshot shows a web interface for searching within the legislative history of PL111-148. At the top, there are links for PDF, Print, Export, and Legislative Process. Below these are three dropdown menus: 'Options' set to 'Sort by pub type', 'Publication Filter' set to 'Show all', and 'Go to' set to 'Select a pub type'. A status line indicates 'PL111-148 contains 408 publications.' Below this are two search input fields. The first is labeled 'Find terms on this page:' and has a 'Go' button. The second is labeled 'Find terms in full text publications:' and contains the search query '"mandate" NEAR "religious"' with a 'Go' button. To the right of the second search field, it says '15 publications contain search hits'. Below the search fields, there is a checkbox labeled 'Only show pubs. matching full text search' which is checked. A link labeled 'PDF LINK' is also visible.

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Publication Type: Legislative History

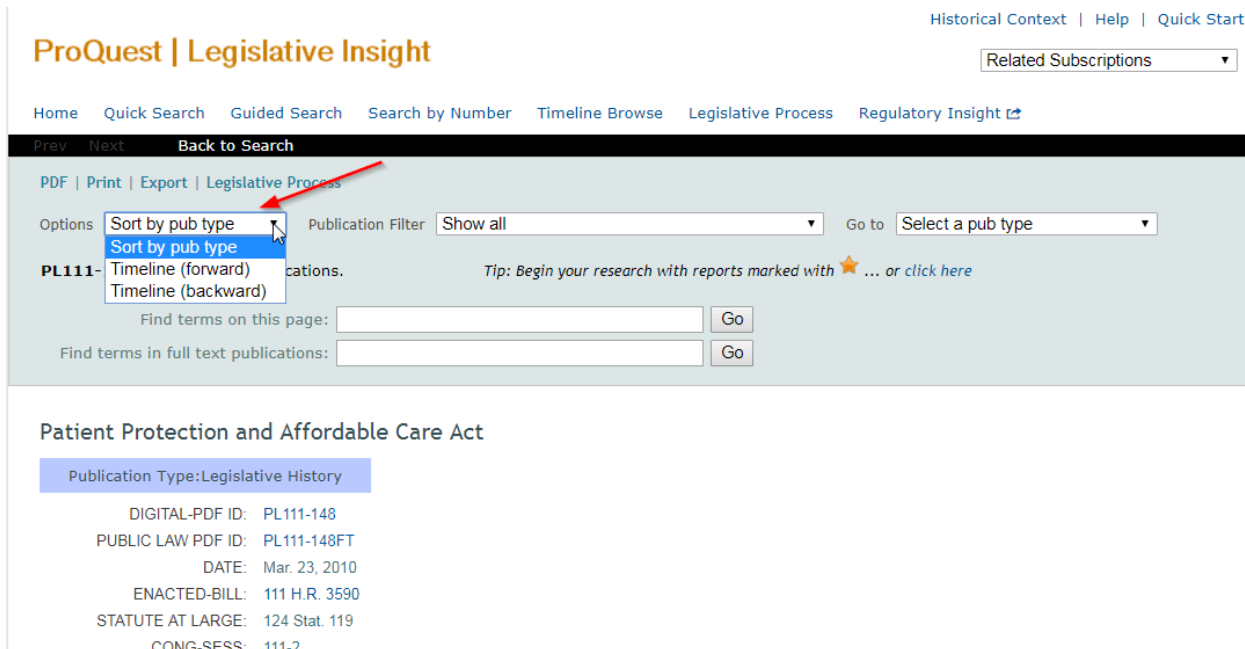
DIGITAL-PDF ID: [PL111-148](#)
PUBLIC LAW PDF ID: [PL111-148FT](#)
DATE: Mar. 23, 2010
ENACTED-BILL: [111 H.R. 3590](#)
STATUTE AT LARGE: [124 Stat. 119](#)
CONG-SESS: [111-2](#)
USCS: [5 USCS § 552a](#), [18 USCS § 24](#), [18 USCS § 207](#), [more...](#)
DURABLE URL: https://congressional.proquest.com/legisinsight?id=PL111-148&type=LEG_HIST

ADDITIONAL TITLES:

From there, a researcher can select a 112th Congress Congressional Research Service (CRS) report providing a constitutional analysis of the individual mandate provision in the report entitled “Requiring Individuals to Obtain Health Insurance: A Constitutional Analysis” published on February 1st, 2011. This report also contains a discussion of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), including the Supreme Court cases striking down certain portions of the law, and a consideration of how the RFRA and its history may impact the implementation and regulation of the PPACA.

OTHER RESEARCH TIPS:

Use the 'Select a pub type' box at the top of each legislative history record to jump to bills, Congressional Record excerpts, reports, documents, hearings or CRS reports.



The screenshot shows the ProQuest Legislative Insight interface. At the top, there are links for 'Historical Context', 'Help', and 'Quick Start'. Below the ProQuest logo, there is a navigation bar with links: 'Home', 'Quick Search', 'Guided Search', 'Search by Number', 'Timeline Browse', 'Legislative Process', and 'Regulatory Insight'. A 'Related Subscriptions' dropdown is also present. The main content area is titled 'Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act'. Below this, there is a 'Publication Type: Legislative History' section. The 'Options' section includes a 'Sort by pub type' dropdown menu, which is highlighted with a red arrow. The 'Publication Filter' is set to 'Show all'. The 'Go to' section has a 'Select a pub type' dropdown. The 'Find terms on this page' and 'Find terms in full text publications' sections are also visible. The 'Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act' section lists the following information: DIGITAL-PDF ID: PL111-148, PUBLIC LAW PDF ID: PL111-148FT, DATE: Mar. 23, 2010, ENACTED-BILL: 111 H.R. 3590, STATUTE AT LARGE: 124 Stat. 119, and CONG-SESS: 111-2.

Examples of the types of publications included in the legislative history of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA):

BILLS

In addition to the individual insurance mandate and the system of subsidies and health insurance marketplaces central to the PPACA, the law incorporated congressional initiatives to address problems in the U.S. healthcare system from earlier Congresses. For example, a researcher can compare Title VI, Subtitle H — the Elder Justice Act of 2009 — of the enacted law (PPACA) to the related bill 107 S. 2933 from the 107th Congress or the bill 108 H.R. 2490 from the 108th, to track the changes made in the process of enacting the Elder Justice legislation into law. Similar research can be conducted comparing the provisions of PPACA supporting education and research into postpartum depression to bills addressing the issue introduced in earlier Congresses.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

Researching the Congressional Record provides insight into the debate employed to assure passage in both the House and the Senate, as well as the differences between the versions passed by each chamber. For example, the version of 111 H.R. 3590 passed by the House

included a provision for a single-payer, federally-administered public health insurance option, yet this provision was not in the version passed by the Senate and ultimately not in the final version signed by the President. Though the original version of the bill enrolled in the Senate did not include a provision for a public option, an amendment to the bill, introduced by Senator Bernard Sanders of Vermont, would have added a public option to the Senate bill. However, a researcher can search the Congressional Record Daily Edition for December 16, 2009 to read where an objection by Senator Thomas Coburn of Oklahoma was made. The objection — stating that agreement to the amendment would have required a reading of the full, lengthy amendment on the Senate floor before debate on the bill could proceed — was agreed to by unanimous consent, forcing Senator Sanders to withdraw the amendment.

REPORTS

Senate reports from the 108th, 109th, and 110th Congresses recommend passage of bills aimed at protecting older Americans. These reports include summaries of the respective bills, the history of their development, cost estimates, and summaries of the views of the committees considering the bills. Further, on October 15, 2007, a report was submitted by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, recommending the passage of the Melanie Blocker-Stokes Postpartum Depression Research and Care Act. The provisions of this bill, 110 H.R. 20, can be compared to PPACA Sec. 2952, which provides for research and education for postpartum depression.

HEARINGS

Hearings can be invaluable for gaining insight to differing views present throughout the development of a public law. For example, learning the lessons of failed attempts to pass comprehensive healthcare reform in the 1990s, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi simultaneously tasked three relevant House committees — Ways and Means, Education and Labor, and Energy and Commerce — with reviewing the original House bill and returning with recommendations. Research the Comprehensive Health Reform Discussion Draft issued in conjunction with the Energy and Commerce Committee hearing held from June 23-25, 2009 to see the results of the Tri-Committees' discussions, or the 4-page summary of the draft issued by the committee.

CRS REPORTS

Research CRS reports to gain background information and to learn about the implications of PPACA on private health insurance from April 15, 2010, or on Medicare from April 21, 2010. Or, research the impact of the provisions of PPACA relating to the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and Medicaid from May 13, 2010.

Previous Featured Law:

PL85-568 National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958

On October 4th, 1957 the Soviet Union launched man's first artificial satellite into space, named 'Sputnik I.' The launch set shockwaves around the world with its unexpected technological achievement, which was redoubled only a month later with the launch of the Soviet Union's second satellite, 'Sputnik II,' this time with a passenger aboard, a dog named Laika. The launch of these two satellites marked the beginning of the Space Race as both countries sought to achieve greater scientific and technological achievements. During July 1958, Congress responded to the Soviet space developments by authorizing the establishment of the civilian-controlled National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) with the passage of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (PL85-568). The Act created a new agency which was charged with conducting research into aeronautical and space developments and the expansion of human knowledge of phenomena in the atmosphere and space. Moreover, both houses of Congress organized standing committees on space matters. What was more, the Soviets' achievements in space technology had prompted Congress to approve the largest commitment to education ever made by the Federal Government, shifting the focus of scientific research away from military defense to the development of aeronautical and space exploration and education.



RESEARCH TIP:

Use the 'Select a pub' type box at the top of each legislative history record to jump to bills, Congressional Record excerpts, reports, documents, hearings or CRS reports.

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Options Publication Filter Go to

PL85-568 contains 35 publications. *Tip: Begin your research with reports marked with ★ ... or click here*

Find terms on this page: 6 search hits highlighted in text below

Find terms in full text publications:

National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958

Publication Type: Legislative History

DIGITAL-PDF ID: [PL85-568](#)
PUBLIC LAW PDF ID: [PL85-568FT](#)
DATE: July 29, 1958
ENACTED-BILL: [85 H.R. 12575](#)
STATUTE AT LARGE: 72 Stat. 426
CONG-SESS: 85-2
USCS: 10 USCS § 2302, 10 USCS § 2303, 18 USCS § 799, more...
DURABLE URL: https://congressional.proquest.com/legisinsight?id=PL85-568&type=LEG_HIST

Examples of the types of publications included in the legislative history for the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958:

BILLS

Consider legislative intent by comparing the bill as introduced in the House - 85 H.R. 12575 – with the companion bill introduced in the Senate – 85 S. 3609. For example, both bills begin with a 'Declaration of Policy' section. The Senate bill declares the need for adequate research into "aircraft, missiles, satellites, and other space vehicles" to ensure the "general welfare and security of the United States" suggesting a martial as well as scientific purpose (1-2). By contrast, the bill introduced in the House explicitly states the new agency's policy to be devoted to "activities of mankind in outer space including activities upon or in connection with the moon and other heavenly bodies, shall be devoted to peaceful purposes and general welfare" (2). Consider the development of the law and purpose of the new space agency by considering the differences between the House and Senate bills.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

Researching the Congressional Record provides insight into the parliamentary strategies employed to assure passage in both the House and the Senate, as well as the differences between the versions passed by each chamber. Search the official proceedings of Congress from August 19, 1957 to July 16, 1958 to follow the introduction of 85 H.R. 8392, the first NASA bill to pass the House, through various amendments of 85 H.R. 12575 and 85 S. 3609 made on the House and Senate floors to the final conference report where the details of the final bill were hammered out before passage. If you search “military” you can track debates surrounding the level of military control to which the new agency would be subject, as well as congressional concerns about peaceful scientific research, while also balancing the need for national defense.

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, Senate bill 3699, as amended contains, along the lines of the statutory language creating the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, provisions for a Joint Committee on Aeronautics and Space. This committee will be made up of 18 members, 9 from each House, with no more than 5 from any 1 political party in each House, and with the chairmanship and vice chairmanship rotating with each Congress.

The jurisdiction of the committee is defined to be all bills, resolutions, petitions and memorials, relating to the Space Policy Board, the civilian Space Agency, and their activities.

Provision is made for international cooperation on aeronautical and space activities by the civilian Space Agency pursuant to agreements made with the President and confirmed by the Senate. The bill specifies that such cooperation shall be conducted under the foreign

leader was courteous enough to invite me to sit in on the investigation being conducted last December.

A question now comes to my mind, for I wish to be able to tell my constituents at home about this legislation and I think it is good to have it stated for the RECORD. The military will have jurisdiction over matters of national defense. But how much control will the military have over scientific developments in this very important field of space and astronautics? In other words, is the military to control all; or is some field of endeavor to be assigned to civilian scientists who are not under military domination?

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Under the bill, the military will have control of aeronautical and space activities primarily associated with military operations and with the development of weapons systems. The military already have such authority, and already are operating

complete control and complete responsibility over the nonmilitary aeronautical and space activities, and in connection with the top-level Space Policy Board, I refer to the language on page 19 of the bill, beginning in line 15:

TITLE I—COORDINATION OF AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ACTIVITIES

National Aeronautics and Space Policy Board

SEC. 101. (a) There is hereby established in the Executive Office of the President the National Aeronautics and Space Policy Board, referred to hereinafter as the “Board,” which shall be composed of—

(1) the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Director of the National Aeronautics and Space Agency established by section 102 of this act, and the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, each of whom may designate, from officers of the agency of which he is the head.

And so forth. And beginning in line 6, on page 20, we find the following:

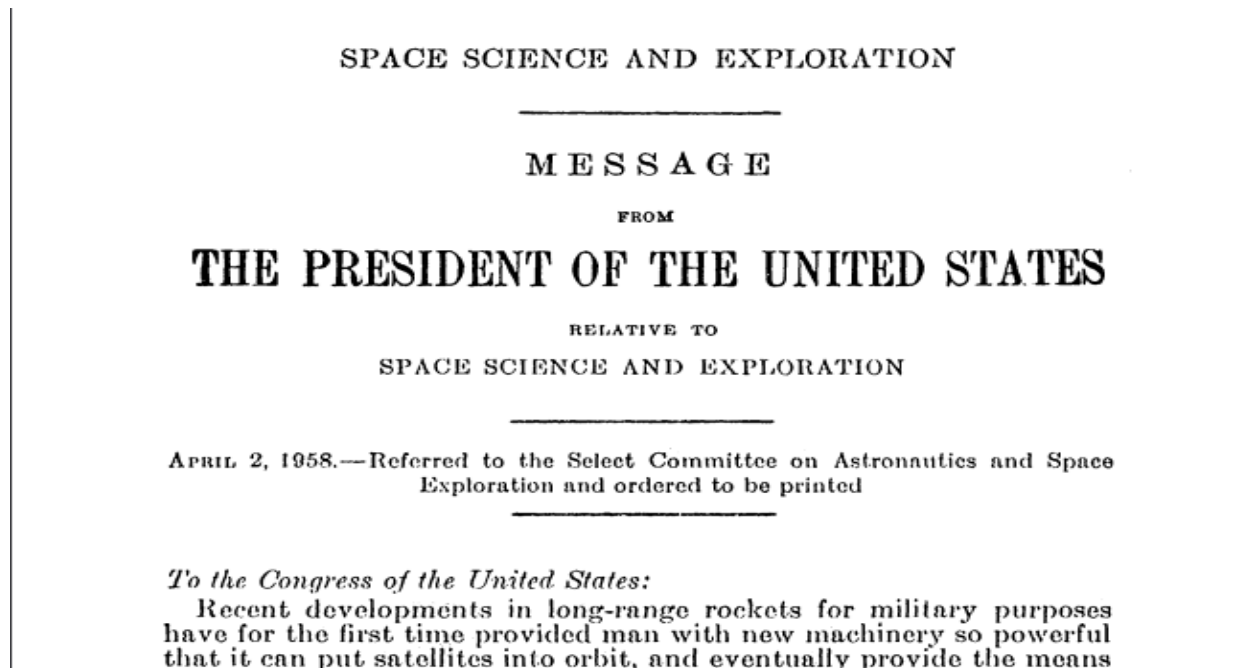
(2) one member designated by the President to represent each of three other agen-

REPORTS

In the Senate Committee on Space and Astronautics report, issued on June 11, 1958, the committee recommended the enactment of legislation to provide for research into flight, space travel, and attempt to define the term “aeronautical and space activity.” Enacted in the midst of the Cold War, the political tensions experienced by the U.S. are exemplified in the report’s claim that “we have no national option but to marshal our resources, order our course, and proceed beyond the shelter and sanctuary of Earth’s atmosphere into this realm of the limitless unknow” (3). The report also, however, recommends the U.S. approach this endeavor with “humility” (3). The second part of the report provides an explanation of the Senate’s proposed bill, including the recommended responsibilities of the new agency and the division of space activities between the agency and Department of Defense. The last part of the report provides a detailed analysis of the bill text.

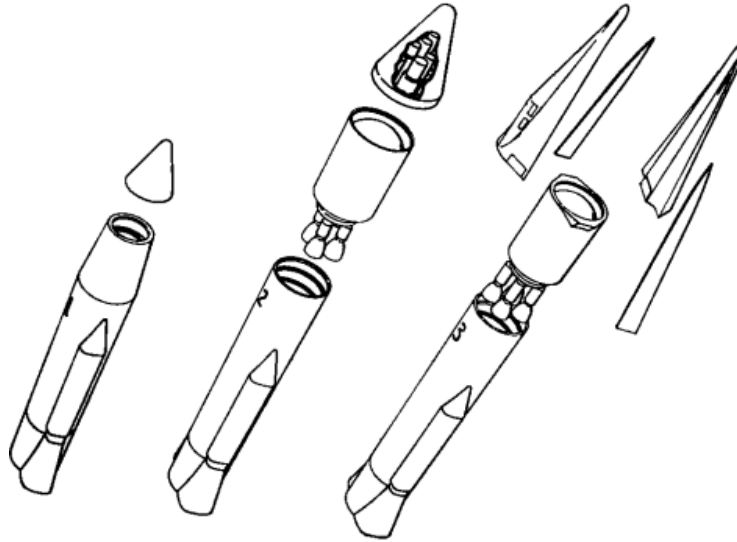
DOCUMENTS

Read the message submitted to Congress by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on April 2, 1958 in which he remarks “it is now within the means of any technologically advanced nation to embark upon practicable programs for exploring outer space” (1). He goes on to recommend a civilian setting for a new administration to be named the National Aeronautics and Space Agency instead of an organization primarily used for military purposes, as was the case with NASA’s predecessor, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, which had played a key role in aeronautical developments during World War II.



HEARINGS

Following the Presidential message to Congress, the House Select Committee on Astronautics and Space Exploration began conducting hearings in April and May of 1958. During the hearing, the potential threat of Russian scientific – and possibly militant – advancement was the ‘immediate problem’ on the agenda amounting to a national emergency. The Committee goes on to claim “atomic energy and outer space are alike in opening new frontiers which are indissolubly linked with the question of war and peace”(7), directly linking the space race to the continuing tension of the Cold War between the Soviet Union and the United States. As the hearings continued, the debates of how to legislate space travel and advancement, the role of the military in astronautic research, and how to define new terms deepened. Supplementary material attached to the hearing include journal articles, charts of known space, reports on classification systems, letters on known aeronautical challenges, and Air University’s Interim Glossary of Aero-Space Terms.



THREE ATLASES

The Atlas orbital system, a permanent manned space station proposed by Convair (Astronautics) division of General Dynamics Corp. requires three vehicles, all based on the Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile. From left, in this exploded drawing, the Atlas itself (1), which would be stripped of its weapons equipment and launched into a 400-mile orbit to become the shell of the space station; the cargo vehicle (2); and the personnel vehicle (3). Both of these latter vehicles would employ the Atlas as a booster, plus a standard second-stage rocket. The cargo vehicle would be able to carry 8,000 pounds of equipment into the space-station orbit. The personnel vehicle would mount two 2-man gliders at its tip. Near the space station, these two gliders would leave the second-stage rocket and dock at the station under power of small steering rockets. The gliders would also be used to return to the earth's surface. The station could be established within 5 years, according to its designer, Krafft Ehrlicke, assistant to the technical director at Convair-Astronautics, San Diego, Calif.

PRESIDENTIAL SIGNING STATEMENT

Upon signing PL85-568 into law President Eisenhower highlighted in his presidential signing statement Section 205 which authorizes international cooperation in pursuit of scientific research and the peaceful application of the law. However, he also emphasizes that any treaties entered into would still require the approval of the Senate while any other type of arrangement would be considered less formal, simultaneously encouraging peaceful international cooperation while continuing to exhibit the tensions of the Cold War.