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How to Update a US Code Section Online

James M. Donovan

University of Georgia School of Law Library, james.donovan@uky.edu

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How to Update a US Code Section Online

Although the Code can be accessed via a variety of portals, this example begins with Cornell's LII site (www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode):

1. Access the code section by entering the US Code citation;

Find US Code Materials by Title and Section

If you know the citation for the US Code material you want to find, fill in the title and section numbers below. (eg. *22 USC 1501* would be Title **22**, Section **1501**). You need to fill in both title and section.

Title: Section:

2. Retrieve the section and click on the "update" link;

[TITLE 42](#) > [CHAPTER 7](#) > [SUBCHAPTER IV](#) > [Part A](#) > [§ 603](#) [Prev](#) | [Next](#)

§ 603. Grants to States

Release date: 2005-12-27

(a) Grants

(1) Family assistance grant

(A) In general

Each eligible State shall be entitled to receive from the Secretary, for each of fiscal years 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003, a grant in an amount equal to the State family assistance grant.

(B) State family assistance grant

The State family assistance grant payable to a State for a fiscal year shall be the

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[Cited authorities](#)

[\(CFR\)](#)

[Your comments](#)

3. Note the result as reported from GPO:

No updates are available from the GPO system

The most recent update information in the GPO database says:
Document not affected by Public Laws enacted between January 7, 2003 and February 12, 2003
and is the best information about currency we can obtain from the GPO system; it may not be very helpful.

There may be a [more up-to-date version of this section](#) at the GPO. You may also get a [list of bills that mention this section](#) from the Thomas system at the Library of Congress.

For a number of reasons you may want to check for updates manually. It is possible that the GPO server is down or busy, or that the update service offered by GPO is itself out of date.

UPDATING A SECTION MANUALLY

To determine if particular section has been amended you need to inspect the so-called "classification tables" prepared by the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives. These map recently-passed laws and amendments to the Code to the particular sections of the Code that are affected. You can find them at the [House server](#). Using the title and section of the Code that you are interested in, look through the tables sorted by Code section. Write down any of the Public Law numbers that affect the section you are interested in.

4. Go to uscode.house.gov, and then load the Classification Tables:



Office of the Law Revision Counsel

The Office of the Law Revision Counsel prepares and publishes the United States Code, which is a consolidation and codification by subject matter of the general and permanent laws of the United States.

- [About](#) the Office and the U.S. Code database
- [Search](#) the U.S. Code
- [Download](#) titles and chapters of the U.S. Code or view [list of titles](#)
- [Classification Tables](#) listing sections of the U.S. Code affected by recently enacted laws

- From the list, select the first one that post-dates the revision date on the GPO response, and choose the preferred format for the list (usually HTML):



United States Code Classification Tables

Office of the Law Revision Council

These tables show where recently enacted laws will appear in the United States Code and which sections of the Code have been amended by those laws. The tables sorted in Public Law order may be used to identify the sections of the Code affected by a particular law. The tables sorted in Code order may be used to determine whether a particular section of the Code has recently been amended. The tables only include those provisions of law that have been classified to the Code. The text of recently enacted laws may be found through the Library of Congress [Thomas](#) web site.

<p>2004 108th Congress, 2nd Session Public Laws 108-199 to 108-498</p> <p>Sorted in Public Law order (HTML format) (PDF format) *</p> <p>Sorted in U.S. Code order (HTML format) (PDF format) *</p>	<p>2005 109th Congress, 1st Session Public Laws 109-1 to 109-169 and 109-173</p> <p>Sorted in Public Law order (HTML format)</p> <p>Sorted in U.S. Code order (HTML format)</p>	<p>2006 109th Congress, 2nd Session Public Laws 109-170 to 109-172 and Public Laws 109-174 to 109-175</p> <p>Sorted in Public Law order (HTML format)</p> <p>Sorted in U.S. Code order (HTML format)</p>
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- Look up the citation to the US Code section, and find the citations to Public Laws in that year that altered the text of that Code section:

42	434		108-203	101	525
42	434	nt	108-203	102	525
42	434	nt	108-203	103	525
42	502		108-271	101	814
42			108-295	2 (a)	1090
42	503	nt new	108-295	2 (c) (1)	1091
42	603		108-210	2 (b)	564
42	603		108-262	2 (b)	696
42	603		108-308	2 (b) (1), (2)	1135
42	605		108-211	1 (b)	814
42	609		108-308	2 (b) (3)	1135
42	653		108-199	217 (a)	394

- You must now find the text of the Public Law, the first of which is 108-210(2b). A good place to retrieve public laws is THOMAS (Thomas.loc.gov):



1. Go to the Public Laws



2. Choose the 108th Congress...



3. Choose the RANGE of public laws in that run....

8. From the list of public laws, find the one that you need, and the file format:

<p>Sponsor: Rep Pearce, Stevan [NM-2] (introduced 5/9/2003) Cosponsors (2) Committees: House Resources House Reports: 108-257 Latest Major Action: Became Public Law No: 108-209 [GPO: Text, PDF]</p>
<p>210. S.2231: A bill to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant program through June 30, 2004, and for other purposes. Sponsor: Sen Grassley, Chuck [IA] (introduced 3/25/2004) Cosponsors (1) Committees: House Ways and Means; House Energy and Commerce Latest Major Action: Became Public Law No: 108-218 [GPO: Text, PDF]</p>
<p>211. S.2241: A bill to reauthorize certain school lunch and child nutrition programs through June 30, 2004. Senator Cos Cobles, Thad [MS] (introduced 3/26/2004) Cosponsors (1)</p>

9. From the text of the retrieved bill, find the relevant text that updates the original code section:

<p>This Act may be cited as the ``Welfare Reform Extension Act of 2004``.</p> <p>SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM THROUGH JUNE 30, 2004.</p> <p>(a) In General.--Activities authorized by part A of title IV of the Social Security Act, and by sections 510, 1108(b), and 1925 of such Act, shall continue through June 30, 2004, in the manner authorized for fiscal year 2002, notwithstanding section 1902(e)(1)(A) of such Act, and out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are hereby appropriated such sums as may be necessary for such purpose. Grants and payments may be made pursuant to this authority through the third quarter of fiscal year 2004 at the level provided for such activities through the third quarter of fiscal year 2002.</p> <p>(b) Conforming Amendment.--Section 403(a)(3)(H)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(3)(H)(ii)) is amended by striking ``March 31`` and inserting ``June 30``.</p> <p>SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF THE NATIONAL RANDOM SAMPLE STUDY OF CHILD WELFARE AND CHILD WELFARE WAIVER AUTHORITY</p>

10. Repeat this process for every public law in each session of Congress that has been identified as altering the text of the original code section.