



US Public Policy Research

Document Center, University of Oregon Libraries

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Do you have a specific topic?

- ▶ Yes, a state policy area (like marriage or gambling)
- ▶ Yes, a federal policy area (like telecommunications or pharmaceuticals)

If your topic, like habitat protection, bridges state and federal policy, follow one branch and then the other.

- ▶ No, I need to find a topic.

Finding a Topic

Browse some of these sources for a topic that interests you and meets your class requirements.

- ▶ Council of State Governments: Policy & Research
- ▶ Governing
- ▶ State Legislatures
- ▶ Oregon Policy Directory

- ▶ Congressional Quarterly Researcher (UO only)
- ▶ National Journal (UO only)
- ▶ American Policy Directory

- ▶ Found a topic?

Are you focusing on Oregon?

- ▶ Yes, Oregon
- ▶ No, other US state(s)

Oregon Checklist

- ✓ Law, legislation, and ballot measures
- ✓ State agencies and regulations
- ✓ Case law
- ✓ Statistics & datasets
- ✓ Interest groups and media

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Oregon Laws, Bills, and Legislation

- ▶ Current Oregon Laws: Oregon Revised Statutes
 - ▶ Browse [online at the Oregon Legislature](#)
 - ▶ Search in [LexisNexis Academic \(UO only\)](#) ([Video demo](#))
 - ▶ Legal tab → Federal & State Codes → Drop-down menu: Oregon
 - ▶ In print, 1989-present: [DOC-OR L/L52/4.6R32](#)
- ▶ [Oregon Session Laws \(by date\), 1999-present](#)
- ▶ [Oregon Bills \(text and history\), 1995-present](#)

Oregon Legislative History In Depth

- ▶ [Process Overview](#) and [Step-by-Step Guide](#)
- ▶ Detailed Measure Histories
 - ▶ [Choose session](#) → Joint Final Status Report
- ▶ [Legislative Committee Minutes](#) (audio and text), 1991-present

Oregon Initiatives and Referenda

- ▶ 1995-present, online at the [Oregon Secretary of State](#)
 - ▶ Text of ballot measures, Voters' Guides with arguments in favor and opposed, and official results
- ▶ 1902-present: [List of all ballot measures and official results](#)
- ▶ 1904-present: [Voter's Guide pamphlets](#)
 - ▶ In print DOC-OR S.8V94
- ▶ 2002-present: [League of Women Voters Guides](#)
- ▶ *These resources are organized by year. To find any years your topic was on the ballot, [search the Oregon Blue Book](#).*

[Next: Oregon Agencies & Regulations](#)

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Oregon Agencies and Regulations

- ▶ Agencies: [Oregon.gov alphabetical list](#)
 - ▶ *Oregon Blue Book: Agencies* [by topic](#) or [alphabetically](#)
 - ▶ [Historical Agency Records from the State Archives](#)
- ▶ Agency Regulations: Oregon Administrative Rules
 - ▶ [Browse Oregon Administrative Rules](#)
 - ▶ Search in [Westlaw](#) (UO only)
 - ▶ Scroll down to Statutes and Regulations → Check State Administrative Codes → Choose Oregon in drop-down menu
 - ▶ In print, 1997-present: [DOCS-OR S.6Ad6/2](#)

Next: [Oregon Case Law](#)

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Oregon Case Law

- ▶ Search Oregon cases in LexisNexis Academic (UO only)
 - ▶ Legal tab → Federal & State Cases → Drop-down menu: Oregon
 - ▶ Video demonstration (2 minutes)
- ▶ Annotations to the Oregon Revised Statutes
 - ▶ Scroll down to browse case law by statute volume and chapter
- ▶ Supreme Court opinions: Case law by date and case name
 - ▶ Online, 1998-present Oregon Reports
 - ▶ In print, 1862-present DOC-OR Ju/Su7.3R29

Next: Oregon Statistics and Data

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Oregon Statistics and Datasets

- ▶ [Annual Oregon Population Report](#)
- ▶ [Oregon Business Development Commission](#)
- ▶ [Oregon Office of Economic Analysis](#)
- ▶ [Oregon Labor Market Information System](#)
- ▶ [Center for Health Statistics](#)
- ▶ [Oregon Agricultural Statistics](#)
- ▶ [Oregon Progress Board](#)
- ▶ [Data for Local Communities](#)

[Next: Oregon interest groups and media](#)

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Oregon Interest Groups and Media

- ▶ [Oregon Policy Directory](#)

- ▶ Searchable, topical listing of Oregon interest groups

- ▶ [Oregon State Legislature](#)

- ▶ Live streaming video requires Windows Media Player
- ▶ Archived audio requires Real Media Player

- ▶ [Oregon Newspapers](#)

- ▶ [Oregon Public Broadcasting](#)

- ▶ Streaming audio, video, and text of local & national NPR & PBS

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Other States

- ▶ *The Book of the States* [Knight Reference JK 2403.B6](#)
- ▶ [Laws, bills, and regulations for all fifty states](#)
 - ▶ Search in [Westlaw](#) (UO only)
 - ▶ Scroll down to Statutes and Regulations → Check State boxes → Choose state in drop-down menus
- ▶ State case law
 - ▶ State courts, listed at the commercial site [FindLaw](#)
 - ▶ [LexisNexis Academic](#) (UO only) (Legal tab → Federal & State Cases → Drop-down menu: state) ([Video demo](#))
- ▶ Datasets and statistics
 - ▶ [Data collected by state agencies](#)
 - ▶ [State Statistical Abstracts](#)
 - ▶ [More sources](#)
- ▶ News coverage
 - ▶ [News Voyager](#)
 - ▶ [Alternative Press Index](#) (UO only)
- ▶ *Contact a Documents librarian for more help with state policy.*

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Federal Checklist

- ✓ Law
- ✓ Legislative history
- ✓ Federal agencies
- ✓ Regulations & Implementation
- ✓ Case law
- ✓ Statistics & datasets
- ✓ Interest groups & public opinion
- ✓ Media
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Federal Law

- ▶ **United States Code** (sorted by category)
 - ▶ Search in [LexisNexis Congressional](#) (UO only) ([Video demo](#))
 - ▶ Browse in [Hein Online](#), 1925-present (UO only)
 - ▶ Browse at [Cornell's Legal Information Institute](#)
 - ▶ In print, current edition: [DOCS REF KF62 2006](#)
 - ▶ In print, older editions: DOC-LC KF62

- ▶ **Public Laws** (numbered sequentially as passed)
 - ▶ In [LexisNexis Congressional](#) (UO only) ([Video demo](#))
 - ▶ From the [Government Printing Office](#), 1995-present

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Federal Legislative History

- ▶ Legislative history: how a bill was passed into law
- ▶ Bill tracking: history of a failed bill or bill in progress
 - Bills and Amendments
 - Congressional Hearings (testimony from experts and constituents)
 - Committee Prints (investigative and historical reports, etc.)
 - Congressional Reports (reports on bills from committees)
 - Congressional Record (debate on the House and Senate floor)
 - Final Text and Votes
- ▶ Find legislative histories
 - ▶ [LexisNexis Congressional](#) (UO only) ([Video demo](#), 5 minutes)
 - ▶ [Thomas](#)
- ▶ Current bills & issues: [CQ Weekly](#) (UO only)

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Reports to Congress

- ▶ **Congressional Research Service**
 - ▶ Non-partisan reports on background context for legislators
 - ▶ [LexisNexis Congressional](#) → Advanced Search → Check CRS Reports (UO only) ([Video demo](#), 5 minutes)

- ▶ **Government Accountability Office**
 - ▶ Non-partisan reports on programs with recommendations

- ▶ **Congressional Budget Office**
 - ▶ Estimates of economic impacts of proposed and ongoing programs

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Federal Agencies

- ▶ Find relevant agencies
 - ▶ [USA.gov](#) (by topic or alphabetically)
 - ▶ [US Government Manual](#) (detailed agency histories)
- ▶ Documents by federal agencies
 - ▶ 1996-present: Mostly online, linked from the [Catalog of US Government Publications](#). If no link is listed, search in the [UOLocal catalog](#). Specify Location: Documents.
 - ▶ 1975-1995: Start with the [Catalog of US Government Publications](#). Use the SuDoc call number to check for a print copy in Knight Library, or search for the document in [UO WorldCat](#).
- ▶ *Older print documents are also available. For historic research, [contact a Documents Librarian](#).*

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Federal Regulations & Implementation

- ▶ Code of Federal Regulations
 - ▶ Search in LexisNexis Congressional, 1981-present (UO only)
 - ▶ Browse at Cornell's Legal Information Institute
 - ▶ In print, current year: DOCS REF US Legal Range 4
 - ▶ In print, 1938-last year: DOC-US Compact Shelving
- ▶ *Federal Regulatory Directory* DOCS REF JK 901.F4
- ▶ Budget of the United States Government
- ▶ Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, 1965-present

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Federal Case Law

- ▶ [Lexis-Nexis Academic](#) (UO only) All federal court levels

- ▶ Supreme Court
 - ▶ [*Annotated Constitution of the United States of America*](#)
 - ▶ Case law organized by sections of the Constitution
 - ▶ In print: [DOCS REF KF4527.U54 2004](#)
 - ▶ 1990-present: [Decisions at the Legal Information Institute](#)
 - ▶ [Oyez](#) Opinions, summaries, and audio of oral arguments

- ▶ District Courts
 - ▶ 1996-present: [Circuit Court cases and opinions](#), FindLaw

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National Datasets and Statistics

- ▶ [Fedstats.gov](https://www.fedstats.gov)
 - ▶ Browse topical information statistics (mostly .pdf)
- ▶ [Statistical Abstract of the United States](https://www.stat.gov)
- ▶ [Data.gov](https://data.gov)
 - ▶ Search for datasets for analysis (mostly .csv format)
- ▶ [More sources for statistics and datasets](#)

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National Interest Groups and Opinion

- ▶ [American Policy Directory](#)
 - ▶ Searchable, topical listing of national interest groups

- ▶ **Testimony to Congress by Interest Groups**
 - ▶ [LexisNexis Congressional](#) → Advanced Search → In Witness Affiliation
 - ▶ [Video demonstration](#), 5 minutes

- ▶ [Public opinion resources](#)

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Media by Federal Branches

- ▶ [White House Video](#)
 - ▶ Video, audio, and photographs of speeches and press briefings
- ▶ [House Live](#)
 - ▶ House of Representatives video, audio, and text summaries
- ▶ [US Government official YouTube channel](#)
 - ▶ Hundreds of videos sorted by topic
- ▶ [USA.gov podcasts](#)
 - ▶ Audio recordings of consumer information, public hearings, etc.
- ▶ [Oyez](#)
 - ▶ Audio and text of selected Supreme Court oral arguments
- ▶ [USA.gov on Flickr](#)
 - ▶ Official government photograph stream

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Media Coverage of the Policy Process

- ▶ Vanderbilt Television News Archive (UO only)
 - ▶ 1968-present
- ▶ C-SPAN Video Library
 - ▶ Congressional, Presidential, and Supreme Court coverage
- ▶ Lexis-Nexis Academic (UO only)
 - ▶ US and world newspapers; television and radio transcripts
- ▶ Associated Press Images (UO only)
 - ▶ Audio and photographs

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