



# Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau

## Theobald Legislative Library

<http://lrbcatalog.legis.wisconsin.gov>

### CORE REFERENCE COLLECTION

[www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lrb/Library/libdocs/coreref.pdf](http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lrb/Library/libdocs/coreref.pdf)

In addition to this sample of publications available in the Reference Room, the reference collection also contains a variety of almanacs, atlases, dictionaries, encyclopedias, handbooks, and statistical resources. Unless otherwise noted, all are for *library use only*.

***Black's Law Dictionary.*** West Publishing Company / Bryan A. Garner, editor-in-chief. (Ref/423/B56)  
The standard resource for legal definitions.

***Blue Book.*** Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau. (328.3/W7c)

This almanac of Wisconsin government has been published since 1853. The reference collection has a set for *library use only*: 1859-2009. The circulating collection has 1901, 1903, 1907-2009 editions.

- Recent *Blue Books* online: [www.legis.state.wi.us/lrb/pubs/bluebook.htm](http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lrb/pubs/bluebook.htm)
- Digital archive, 1853-2003: <http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/WI/subcollections/WIBblueBksAbout.html>

***Book of the States.*** Council of State Governments. (Ref/029/C83) (1935 to date)

The “. . . premier reference work on state government.”

***County Directories.*** (Ref/352.93/W7)

Official local government directories for all 72 Wisconsin counties. Most are available online.

***Crane and Hagensick's Wisconsin Government and Politics.*** Wilder Crane; Thomas Holbrook, editor. 2008. 9th ed. (Ref/354/W7d/2008) Some previous editions are available for checkout.

***CSG State Directories.*** Council of State Governments. (Ref/354.3/C83c)

pt.1 *Elective Officials*; pt.2 *Legislative Leadership, Committees, and Staff*; pt.3 *Administrative Officials*.

***Encyclopedia of Associations, Regional, State, and Local Organizations. Volume I: Great Lakes States.*** Gale Group. (Ref/327/G13a)

This guide to associations focuses on Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

***Encyclopedia of the American Legislative System.*** Joel H. Silbey, editor-in-chief, 1994, 3 v. (Ref/328.1/Si3)

Contains articles on legislative structure, procedure, electoral process, committees, rules, and powers.

***Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure.*** National Conference of State Legislatures in cooperation with the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries, Paul Mason, 2010. (328.4/M38/2010)

“Designed for state legislatures, *Mason's Manual* addresses problems and concepts in the context most legislators are likely to deal with them.” (NCSL Web page) This copy may be checked out.

***Profiles of Wisconsin.*** Grey House Publishing, Inc. (Ref/328.32/G86/2007)

“History, statistics, demographics for all 1,964 populated places in Wisconsin including comparative statistics & rankings.”

***Respectfully Quoted: A Dictionary of Quotations from the Library of Congress.*** Congressional Quarterly, Inc., 1992. (Ref/808.8/C761)

This volume is arranged in subject order and contains both author and keyword/subject indices.

***State Rankings: A Statistical View of America.*** CQ Press. (Ref/310/M82)

Contains over 500 easy-to-use tables featuring states' statistics on a wide variety of topics including: crime, housing, education, and taxes.

***State Tax Guide.*** Commerce Clearing House. (Ref/336.21/C737)

Regularly updated 4-volume looseleaf guide to taxes of the states. Arranged “By States” and “By Taxes”.

***Statistical Abstract of the United States.*** U.S. Bureau of the Census. (Ref/310/X2) (1989, 1991 to date)

The “. . . standard summary of statistics on the social, political, and economic organization of the United States.”

Circulation Desk: (608) 266-7040

Reference Desk: (608) 266-0341

- Stedman's Medical Dictionary.** Thomas Lathrop Stedman, 2000. (Ref/614.2/St3)  
An easy-to-use resource containing comprehensive, current medical information.
- United States Government Manual.** U.S. Office of the Federal Register. (Ref/353.2/X)  
A concise, helpful handbook on the federal government. Some older editions may be checked out.
- Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language, Unabridged.** Merriam-Webster, Inc., 1993. (Ref/423/M55)
- West's Encyclopedia of American Law.** West Publishing Company, 1998. (Ref/341/W52)
- Wisconsin Atlas & Gazetteer.** DeLorme Publishing Company. (Ref/313.2/D38)  
Contains detailed topographic maps, backroads, campground guides, and GPS grids.
- The Wisconsin State Constitution: A Reference Guide.** Jack Stark, 1997. (342.32/St2)  
This is a “. . . comprehensive, convenient, and accessible resource on the Wisconsin Constitution for both lawyers and non-lawyers alike.” This copy may be checked out.
- World Book Atlas.** Rand McNally and Company, 2008. (Ref/314/W89a)
- The Yale Book of Quotations.** Fred R. Shapiro, editor. 2006. (Ref/808.8/Sh2)  
One of several quotation resources in the library.

## PERIODICALS

This list is a sample of the wide array of magazine titles available for your use.  
Single issues may be checked out; bound volumes do not circulate.

- Capitol Ideas.** Council of State Governments. (029/C83b) (January/February 2010 to date)  
Each issue contains many features including a targeted focus “Hot Topic,” news from the states, current interest articles, and a “How To” guide for members. Previously published as *State Government News* (1958 through March 2004) and *State News* (April 2004 through November/December 2009) (029/St2b)
- CQ Weekly.** Congressional Quarterly, Inc. (Ref/328.12/C761) (*library use only*) (2003 to date)  
Provides in-depth, accurate coverage of Congress.
- Governing.** Congressional Quarterly, Inc. (321/C761) (1997 to date)  
Issued monthly, this magazine covers a broad variety of government issues and interests.
- Health Affairs.** Project Hope. (614.23/P94) (March 1997 to date); “Web Exclusives” (614.23/P94a) (2001 to date) [Full-text access via <http://lrbcatt.lgis.wisconsin.gov> for authorized users.]  
A “bimonthly, peer-reviewed journal that explores health policy issues of current concern.”
- LegisBrief: Briefing Papers on Important Issues of the Day.** National Conference of State Legislatures. (328/N21h) (Aug./Sept. 2000 to date) Published as *NCSL LegisBrief* (1993 through June/July 2000)  
Two-page briefs on topics of current legislative concern. A cumulative index is available. (328/N21i)
- Legislative Studies Quarterly.** University of Iowa, Comparative Legislative Research Center. (328.1/Io9) (Feb. 2000 to date) [Full-text access via <http://lrbcatt.lgis.wisconsin.gov> for authorized users.]  
An “international journal devoted to the publication of research on representative assemblies.”
- The Municipality.** League of Municipalities. (352.1/M92) (April 1900-Dec. 1958, January 1980 to date)  
Serves “. . . as the medium of exchange of ideas and information on municipal affairs for the officials of Wisconsin cities and villages.”
- State Legislatures.** National Conference of State Legislatures. (328.11/N214) (1975 to date)  
The “. . . national magazine of state government and policy.”
- Wisconsin Counties.** Wisconsin Counties Association. (352.9/W75) (1938 to date)  
The Association’s goal is to support better county government and protect county interests.
- The Wisconsin Taxpayer.** Wisconsin Taxpayers Alliance. (Ref/336.21/W757d) (*library use only*) (1933 to date)  
“A monthly review of Wisconsin government, taxes and public finance.”  
Many of the single issues are cataloged in the circulating collection and may be checked out.