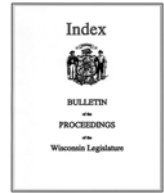




What's *In* the *Index*?



The *Index to the Bulletin of the Proceedings of the Wisconsin Legislature* is produced by legislative librarians at the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau. It is a companion volume to the *Bulletin of the Proceedings of the Wisconsin Legislature* produced by staff of the Senate and Assembly Chief Clerks. By providing access to legislation with its subject and author indexes, the *Index* allows an interested user to easily locate the number of a bill, joint resolution, or resolution.

What's in it?

The *Index* has several components:

- ❖ *Subject Index to Bills, Joint Resolutions, and Resolutions*: This is a guide to all legislation introduced during the session. Arranged by subject, it gives a descriptive abstract and the bill number of each piece of legislation. Substantial amendments to enrolled bills are noted within the original descriptive element. Detailed abstracts to budget bills contain section numbers indicating the location of information within the budget bill. Substantial changes to budget concepts by amendment are reflected in the abstracts, along with the changes in related section numbers. Cross references (*see* and *see also*) are added to point users to related subjects and to direct users from a catch phrase or subtopic to the appropriate subject.
- ❖ *Author Indexes to Bills, Joint Resolutions, and Resolutions*: There are four author indexes. The **Senate** and **Assembly** author indexes give access to legislation authored or sponsored by an individual legislator. Joint Rule 77 (2) determines whether the bill abstract or number appears under the legislator's name. **Legislative Committees** author index lists legislation authored or sponsored by committee. **Entire Membership** index displays legislation authored or sponsored by an entire house.
- ❖ *Subject Index to Legislative Journals*: Arranged by subject, this is an index to Senate and Assembly daily journals. This index provides a guide to pertinent information such as committee appointments, reports to the legislature, rulings of the chair, and resignations.
- ❖ *Subject Index to Wisconsin Acts and Enrolled Bills*: This index is a guide to all enrolled bills, Wisconsin acts, enrolled joint resolutions, and Supreme Court orders. Arranged by subject, the descriptive abstract reflects changes made by amendments. An abstract will contain veto information and, in the case of budget abstracts, indicate which section numbers are affected by veto action. Enrolled joint resolutions (which are assigned an enrolled number by the Secretary of State) are added to the proper subjects in the index.

Where can I find it online? <http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us>

Under "Searchable Infobase" on the Legislature's homepage (<http://www.legis.state.wi.us>), you'll find every component of the *Index* (see figure on next page) from the current session. The *Index* is available online back to 1995; the links are listed after "Previous Sessions" above "Current Session Data." The *Subject Index to Legislation* includes hypertext links to the text of the bills which in turn links to the bill history which in turn links to the Journal page, amendments, and Legislative Council memos. The *Subject Index to Acts* includes hypertext links to the text of the acts. The *Author Index to Legislation* includes hypertext links to the text of the bills in a similar way as the *Subject Index to Legislation*. The *Subject Index to Journals* includes hypertext links to the Assembly and Senate journal pages. Every component of the *Index* is also available in a PDF format, just look for the Adobe icon. ⇨

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Index to the Bulletin of the Proceedings...

During the session, the *Subject Index to Legislation* and the Senate and Assembly author indexes are updated every weeknight. The remaining author indexes, the *Subject Index to Journals*, and the *Subject Index to Acts* are updated as needed.

Before 1995

Prior to 1995, bound volumes of the *Index* are available in the LRB reference area and at the Wisconsin Historical Society Library.

The *Wisconsin Legislation Retrospective Card File*, located in the LRB reference area, is a comprehensive subject index to Wisconsin legislation in a catalog card format covering the years 1895 to 1994. It is arranged first by subject then by date. The LRB began indexing legislation in 1903 for in-house use and retrospectively indexed legislation back to 1895. Beginning in 1969 and under the direction of the Chief of the LRB, the *Index* was published as a separate title from the Senate and Assembly *Bulletins*. Prior to 1969, the Senate and Assembly *Bulletins* had their own subject indexes. Bound copies of the *Index* and the other volumes of the *Bulletin of the Proceedings* are shelved with the Senate and Assembly Journal volumes in the LRB reference area.

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