

(Directory contents - continued)

- State Senators, By District •
- State Representatives, Alphabetical •
- House Directory by District (1-50) •
- House Directory by District (51-100) •
- House Directory by District (101-151) •

5) To determine the districts representing any given town, use the link, "Political Districts by Town."

6) Knowledge of the district or name of the desired official will enable the browser to locate the contact information by using the link corresponding to the given office.

7) Each official appears in the Directory together with an address, phone numbers and legislator's homepage link.

8) The website link will open the official's website. Here the browser finds additional contact information, biographical information, committee assignments, party alliance, and additional information.



CONTACTING U.S. SENATORS & REPRESENTATIVES

The page, <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>, provides links for e-mailing U.S. Representatives.

U.S. Senators can be contacted via the "Senators" link at www.senate.gov/.

The LWV of the United States's Legislative Action Center:

<http://www.capwiz.com/lwv/home/>
provides useful resources for contacting federal legislators, researching voting records and more.

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

League of Women Voters of CT
www.lwvct.org

LWVCT Action Center
www.lwvct.org/action.htm

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
www.lwv.org

DemocracyNet:
The League's Online Voters Guide
www.dnet.org

Connecticut Government
CT.gov

Federal Government
firstgov.gov

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE LEAGUE OR
TO CONTACT A LEAGUE NEAR YOU:
CALL THE STATE OFFICE AT 203.288.7996**

**The League of Women Voters
of Connecticut, Inc.
1890 Dixwell Ave. Suite 113
Hamden, CT 06514-3183**

©2004 League of Women Voters of Connecticut, Inc.
Bill Maturo, webmaster@lwvct.org
Revised May 2005



Using the Internet To Make Democracy Work in Connecticut

**USING THE INTERNET TO TRACK
A BILL IN THE CT LEGISLATURE**

**USING THE INTERNET TO CONTACT
ELECTED OFFICIALS IN CT**



**The League of Women Voters
of Connecticut, Inc.
1890 Dixwell Avenue, Suite 113
Hamden, CT 06514-3183**

May 2005

www.lwvct.org
203.288.7996
LWVCT@lwvct.org

USING THE INTERNET TO TRACK A BILL IN THE CT LEGISLATURE

The Connecticut General Assembly homepage at www.cga.ct.gov/ provides links to valuable resources for researching legislation and legislative activities. From this page, links lead to legislative committees, legislative information and search engines.

The House and Senate Calendars, Committees, and Staff Offices can all be reached from this page. There is a direct link to a list of Bills passed. Search engines provide the primary source for locating the status and text of bills, Public Acts and Statutes. This page also enables access to schedules and current legislative events. The Citizen Guide provides information about the Capitol and the legislative process.

SEARCHING FOR A BILL

To search for a bill's text or its status, knowing the bill's number is necessary so finding the bill's number is your major task.

Use the search page to determine the number of the bill which interests you.

Several search options can be reached from the General Assembly homepage.

Be sure to locate an appropriate one.

Search options include:

1. Legislative Documents
2. Find Bills by Introducer / Cosponsor
3. Find Bills by Committee
4. Find Bills by Title / Last Action
5. Find Bills in a Range
6. Subject Index to Bills A-Z
7. Site Search

Be certain that the choices you enter encompass your search goal.

A successful search will generate a reasonable number of possibilities to review for further investigation.

Too many returned items indicate the need to refine your terms. Too few returned items indicate the need to broaden your terms or that you used a limiter that excludes your bill from the current search.

Your ultimate goal is to find the bill number as this will facilitate future tracking. Knowing the bill number enables you to easily conduct a Quick Search.

An alternate approach to finding your bill is to look on the website of the bill's sponsoring Legislative Committee. Links to Connecticut's Legislative committees are found on the CGA homepage. Each committee's homepage shows links to its Bill Record Book, Joint Favorable Reports, Public Hearings Agendas, and the like.

RESEARCHING FEDERAL LEGISLATION

The homepage of the U.S. Senate at www.senate.gov provides a link to Legislation and Records where one can search by bill number or important term.

The U.S. House of Representatives homepage suggests using Thomas.loc.gov, the Library of Congress's website, to search for federal bills and legislation.

USING THE INTERNET TO CONTACT ELECTED OFFICIALS IN CONNECTICUT

The mailing addresses and telephone numbers of Connecticut's elected officials will be found in the League of Women Voters of Connecticut's online *Directory of Federal & State Elected Officials*.

1) To access this information, browse to the homepage of the League at www.lwvct.org.

2) Find and use the link labeled "*Directory of Federal & State Elected Officials*."

3) This will open the main page of the Directory.

4) The relevant portion of its Table of Contents appears below:

- Political Districts by Town •
- United States Congress •
- State of Connecticut: Executive •
- Legislative Branch •
- State Senators, Alphabetical •

(over)