



## Health Policy - Legislative Pathfinder

<http://depts.alverno.edu/library/pdf/LegislativePathfinder-HealthPolicy.pdf>

### General Resources

#### *The Almanac of American Politics*

Reference book - 328.73 A445

By Michael Barone and Richard E. Cohen

The *Almanac* includes a profile of every member of Congress. It also has in-depth profiles of all 50 states and their congressional districts; includes maps, census data, campaign finance data, voting records, and more.

*CQ Researcher* (Online access restricted to Alverno students, staff, or faculty)

<http://depts.alverno.edu/library/>

To access this subscription database, look for the "Databases A-Z" link found on the Alverno library's homepage. This excellent resource provides in-depth reports focused on a single topic. It also includes information on controversial subjects with extensive bibliographies.

#### GPO Access

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/>

Maintained by the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), this site is the premier gateway to many important U.S. government sites. Look for the "Legislative Resources" links on the site's homepage to access a wealth of congressional materials and legislative resources.

#### Thomas

<http://thomas.loc.gov/>

Created by the Library of Congress, this site provides accurate and comprehensive information on the activities of the United States Congress. Thomas also provides access to detailed information on House and U. S. Senate bills for current and past Congresses.

#### United States House of Representatives

<http://www.house.gov/>

This site provides access to information on individual House members, congressional committees, summaries of current proceedings, and more. It also allows you to find your representative and provides access to each member's webpage and e-mail address. Especially useful is the "Currently on the House Floor Link" which allows you to view information on Floor proceedings for the past seven legislative days.

#### United States Senate

<http://www.senate.gov/>

This site provides access to information on individual senators, roll call votes for current and past Congresses, Senate history, recent floor activity, committees, and more. Especially useful is the "Active Legislation" link, here you will find a detailed table of bills in the 106<sup>th</sup> through the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress.

## **Political Money**

Federal Election Commission

<http://www.fec.gov/>

This site provides detailed information on political campaign contributions; information can be found by searching the “Disclosure Database” found on the “Campaign Finance Reports and Data” page.

OpenSecrets.org

<http://www.opensecrets.org/>

Created by the non-partisan Center for Responsive Politics, this site tracks money in politics, reports its effect on elections and public policy, and provides detailed information on who gives and receives political money. This site also provides access to several databases, and includes a Lobbying database, Political Action Committee (PAC) database, and more.

## **Voting Records**

U. S. Congress Votes Database

<http://projects.washingtonpost.com/congress/>

This site lets you browse “every vote in the U.S. Congress since 1991”. Browse votes by a particular Congress, individual members, bill, state, vote type, and more.

Project Vote Smart

<http://www.vote-smart.org/index.htm>

This site provides a wide scope of information on members of Congress and other government officials. It includes access to biographical histories, voting records, special interest group ratings, campaign finance contributions, public statements, and more.

## **Health Policy**

Alverno College Library – Best Web Sites Page

The Best Web Sites page for Health and Nursing has numerous links to quality health policy websites. Look for the “Health Policy” section; it has links to many great resources including the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation site which provides non-partisan facts, information, and analysis for policymakers.

<http://depts.alverno.edu/library/health.html>

GovTrack.us

<http://www.govtrack.us/>

Track current health policy legislation by clicking the “Subject” link found on the left side of the homepage. Select “H”, and scroll down to “Health Policy” to view bills that are related to this subject.

## **Abbreviations**

Some of the resources found in this pathfinder contain numerous abbreviations.

Fortunately, GPO Access provides a glossary that explains the meaning of many of these abbreviations. <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/bills/glossary.html>