



Updated 3/17/2017

Federal Legislator/Legislation Information Resources				
Name	Address	About	Information Provided	Comments
Websites				
Countable Webpage and App	https://www.countable.us App can be downloaded on iTunes - Free. Launched 2014.	<p>“Created by a team of dedicated Americans based in San Francisco and Washington DC. We believe that using technology properly we can make American democracy work in a fashion similar to what our founders envisioned.”</p> <p>App for iPhones, iPads, iPod Touch Must have iOS 8.0</p>	<p>Website has very understandable information on bills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily notifications about upcoming votes - Short non-partisan summaries of news and legislation - Unbiased arguments for and against - See how your votes align with your lawmakers - Post an opinion or vote and we’ll inform your lawmakers <p>Votes made on the app are delivered to the politician's office and once the bill is voted on, participants can see whether or not their lawmaker supported them on the issue.</p>	<p>Reviews of app are 4/5 stars with 265 ratings. Some recent reviews talk about app crashing; some say it works great.</p>
<u>congress.gov</u>	https://www.congress.gov https://www.congress.gov/bills-with-chamber-action/115th-congress/browse-by-date https://www.congress.gov/roll-call-votes https://www.congress.gov/help/alerts	<p>“Hosted and managed by the Library of Congress with mission is to support Congress in fulfilling its constitutional duties, and to further the progress of knowledge and creativity for the benefit of the American people.”</p>	<p>Detailed information on Legislation, Congressional Record (daily report of all action in Congress), committee information and activity, Members (past and present) with general info, sponsored legislation with info and status of same.</p> <p>Action on legislation by date.</p> <p>Detail of roll call votes monthly for both Congressional sessions.</p> <p>Can sign up for alerts for any action on Legislation, Nominations and Member Profiles, congressional record update.</p>	<p>Massive site that takes some time to navigate but is very useable with practice.</p>



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Five Thirty Eight Congress/Trump Score Project	https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/congress-trump-score/	538 is a website that focuses on opinion poll analysis, politics, economics, and sports blogging - takes its name from the number of electors in the United States electoral college - founded 2008.	Contains a Trump Score for Senate and House for votes (including rules, regs, etc.) in agreement or disagreement with President in those cases where Trump administration has taken a public position. Also shows votes in House and Senate. Tech: Twitter @FiveThirtyEight including all topics of the publication	Very useful. Can sort by members names, by party and by scores. Can zoom in on a member and identify measures voted for or against. Can view chart of outstanding votes and link to congress.gov to read full text. Caution from 538: "For the time being, these calculations aren't based on very many votes. Therefore, they're likely to bounce around over the next few weeks until more votes are taken"
ProPublica Represent Project	https://projects.propublica.org/represent/	Non-profit corporation based in New York City - describes itself as an independent non-profit newsroom that produces investigative journalism in the public interest.	Information on lawmakers, the bills they consider and the votes they take (and miss). You can browse the latest votes and bills, see how often lawmakers vote against their parties and compare voting records.	Has useful "Votes against Party" percentage and "Bills Sponsored" for current Congress (not past). Latest votes. Can sort by Bill Types (ex.: Health) and short paragraph and status of bills and drill down to read bill text.
Vote Smart	http://votesmart.org	Mission is to provide free, factual, unbiased information on candidates and elected officials to all Americans	Provides easy access to Congressional and state voting records and maintains a collection of Key votes grouped by issue. Key votes criteria are "helpful in portraying how a member stands on a particular issue, clear for any person to understand, received media attention, passed or defeated by a very close margin, Info on Members: Bio, Votes, Positions (determined from public records if the member unwilling to give a position), Rating, Speeches, Funding (Contributors/Industries/Sectors)	Very easy to use. Lots of info. Includes all votes of a member. Short bill summaries usually not very helpful - but can also view full bill using a button to congress.gov .



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GovTrack	https://www.govtrack.us	“Completely independent entity which is wholly owned by its operator and receives no funding in any form from outside organizations. We have no financiers, sponsors, investors, or partners, nor do we have any affiliation or relationship (financial or otherwise) with any political party, government agency, or any other outside group or persons.”	Provides analysis of each member including: Report card, committee membership, enacted legislation, bills sponsorship, voting record, missed votes. Bills and Resolutions: Coming up, Find a bill, Get alerts (including daily for all votes) by email for more any Congressional activity - including Hot Bills trending and most tracked. Tweet when bills are enacted and when we publish original research.	Good, clear, short summaries of bills. Not intuitive to find - little bit of a learning curve.
OpenSecrets	http://www.opensecrets.org	“Nonpartisan, independent and nonprofit, the Center for Responsive Politics is the nation's premier research group tracking money in U.S. politics and its effect on elections and public policy.”	Resource for federal campaign contributions, lobbying data and analysis; Provides basic information on members with their fundraising, contributors and industries contributing. Donor search yields donors name, industry, amount and donee.	
Federal Election Commission	http://www.fec.gov/pindex.shtml	Created by Congress to administer and enforce the Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA) - the statute that governs the financing of federal elections - duties of the FEC, which is an independent regulatory agency, are to disclose campaign finance information, to enforce the provisions of the law such as the limits and prohibitions on contributions, and to oversee the public funding of Presidential elections.	Detailed information regarding contributions and disbursements to a candidate including donor and PAC information.	A little tricky to navigate.
Apps / Alerts				
Set up Google Alert for any stories regarding member of Congress	https://www.google.com/alerts How to set up alerts: https://support.google.com/websearch/answer/4815696?hl=en	Will send alert to your email as it happens, once a day or once a week of any news stories regarding your search.		