

# Sources

## GUIDE TO LEGISLATIVE RECORDS

The following is a general overview of the legislative source materials consulted in the preparation of this book. The authors have also listed some materials not used but mentioned here to promote further inquiry into the committee's past and present.

The legislative resources available to the student of congressional history and politics are vast. Before undertaking a study of the Committee on Ways and Means, or any other congressional committee, the researcher should become acquainted with the numerous aids and research guides available on the subject of Congress. The reference works cited are applicable to all standing committees. With a few exceptions, these works can be located at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, and at various libraries and research institutions located throughout the United States.

For a general understanding of Congress and the legislative process, see four works published by Congressional Quarterly: *Guide to Congress* (3d ed. Washington, DC: Congressional Quarterly, 1981), *Powers of Congress* (Washington, DC: Congressional Quarterly, 1982), *How Congress Works* (Washington, DC: Congressional Quarterly, 1983), and Walter J. Oleszek, *Congressional Procedures and the Policy Process* (3d ed. Washington, DC: Congressional Quarterly, 1989). There are also several guides to government documents and publications. Three of the best are Laurence F. Schmeckbier and Roy B. Easton, *Government Publications and Their Use* (2d rev. ed. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, 1969), Robert Goehlert, *Congress and Law-Making: Researching the Legislative Process* (Santa Barbara, CA: Clio Books, 1979), and Joe Morehead, *Introduction to United States Public Documents* (3d ed. Littleton, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 1983). These guides can greatly assist an individual in locating, identifying and narrowing the parameters of legislative sources in the preliminary research stage.

To produce the present study, the authors examined both published and unpublished legislative sources. The principal published sources were the records of the colonial and early state legislatures (individually cited in the text) and the floor proceedings of the House of Representatives. The *Journal of the House of Representatives*, which is required by the Constitution, has been published continuously since 1789. It chronicles the introduction of and subsequent actions taken on bills, the referral of bills and other business to committees, and roll call votes, among other proceedings. Two journals are also published for the Senate. The debates on House and Senate legislation

are the subject of another series of publications. For the period 1789–1824, see *Annals of Congress* (Washington, DC: Gales and Seaton, 1834–1857); 1824–1837, see *Register of Debates* (Washington, DC: Gales and Seaton, 1824–1837); 1833–1873, see *Congressional Globe* (Washington, DC: Francis P. Blair and John C. Rives, 1833–1873); and for the period from 1873 to the present, see *Congressional Record* (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1874– ). Both the House and Senate *Journals* are indexed, albeit with varying degrees of accuracy and comprehensiveness. These indexes were used to compile the bill histories upon which much of the narrative concerning the committee's legislation was based. For concise histories of Ways and Means Committee legislation since 1945, an excellent source is the *Congressional Quarterly Almanac* (Washington, DC: Congressional Quarterly, 1945– ). The *Almanac*, published annually, summarizes congressional activities for the previous year. The committee's legislation as approved by Congress since 1789 is compiled in *United States Statutes at Large*, 99 vols. (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1845– ), a chronological listing by session of all statutes enacted by the federal legislature. These laws are periodically codified in *United States Code* (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1926– ). For the evolution of a federal law on a given subject, see *United States Code Annotated* (St. Paul, MN: West Publishing, 1973). For committee and conference reports on legislation since 1941, see *The U.S. Code Congressional and Administrative News* (St. Paul, MN: West Publishing, 1941– ).

Information regarding the jurisdictional history of the Committee on Ways and Means was obtained principally from published congressional proceedings and other published sources. The evolution of House precedents from 1789 to 1907, including committee jurisdiction, is chronicled in Asher C. Hinds, *Hinds' Precedents of the House of Representatives of the United States*, 5 vols. (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1907). Hinds' work has been updated by Clarence Cannon through 1936, in *Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives*, 6 vols. (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1936), and by Lewis Deschler, *Deschler's Precedents of the United States House of Representatives*, 8 vols. (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1977). An understanding of the historical development of House procedures can be enhanced by consulting the *House Rules and Manual*, published biennially by the Government Printing Office as part of the Congressional Serials Set. For procedural developments from 1959–1980, see Lewis Deschler and William Holmes Brown, *Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, a Summary of the Modern Precedents and Practices of the House: 86th–97th Congress*, with a 1985 and 1987 supplement (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1982). For the most recent precedents see the parliamentarian's annotations of current practice in the latest edition of the *House Rules and Manual*.

Published committee documents were also utilized for this

volume. These are documents such as bills and resolutions, hearings and committee prints, and reports. They have been cited individually in the notes of the text. Information concerning the availability and location of committee documents can be obtained after first consulting the *CIS U.S. Serial Set Index, 1789-1969*, published by the Congressional Information Service in 1969 and supplemented by individual indexes published each year from 1970 to the present. There are other valuable published indexes on committee documents for various time periods. For hearings, see U.S. Congress, Clerk of the House of Representatives, *Index to Congressional Committee Hearings in the Library of the House of Representatives prior to January 1, 1951* (1 vol. with supplements. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1951-1969); and on committee prints, Rochelle Field, ed. *A Bibliography and Indexes of United States Committee Prints*, 2 vols. (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1977). To obtain a general sense of congressional documents available for the period prior to 1817, see the series *American State Papers*, 38 vols. (Washington, DC: Gales and Seaton, 1832-1861). This series, which is indexed in the *CIS U.S. Serial Set Index*, also reprints early messages and reports from the executive branch, including presidential communications. For presidential communications, also see U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, *Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States*, (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1958- ), as well as other published series of presidential papers, a few of which are cited elsewhere in this bibliography and in the text.

Biographical information concerning the members of the Committee on Ways and Means has been derived principally from biographies, cited individually below, and from biographical directories. The most extensively used was Allen Johnson and Dumas Malone, eds., *Dictionary of American Biography*, 17 vols., including supplements (rev. ed. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1958-1981). The first seven volumes of this dictionary are subdivided into two parts, the second part being a reprint of an earlier edition issued in the 1920s. The entries are arranged alphabetically. Another useful source was the recently published bicentennial edition *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, 1774-1989* (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1989). For published guides to manuscript collections of committee members, a good place to start is Cynthia Pease Miller, ed., *Guide to Research Collections of Former Members of the House of Representatives, 1787-1987* (Washington, DC: Office of the Bicentennial of the U.S. House of Representatives, 1988); and John J. McDonough, comp., *Members of Congress: A Checklist of their Papers in the Manuscript Division, Library of Congress* (Washington, DC: Library of Congress, 1980).

The unpublished records of the Committee on Ways and Means are extensively cited throughout this history. These records are located at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, DC. The National Archives has acted as the depository for the

historic records of all three branches of the Federal Government since 1934. The textual records of Congress are administered by the Center for Legislative Archives and Records Administration. The Center has custody of eight record groups pertaining to Congress. The Record Group consulted for this publication was Record Group 233 (Records of the U.S. House of Representatives), which contains a wealth of items pertaining to the committee's history and legislation.

The principal record types reviewed were extant minutebooks, petitions, and memorials referred to the committee; draft and printed versions of committee bills, reports and papers; papers accompanying specific bills and resolutions; and committee correspondence of various types. While these records constitute an invaluable body of information, they are so dense that it behooves the researcher to consult finding aids to the records before attempting to review them in any systematic fashion. This process has been simplified by the recent publication of Charles E. Schamel, et al., *Guide to the Records of the United States at the National Archives, 1789-1989* (H. Doc. No. 100-245), a bicentennial edition that provides the general public with a comprehensive guide to the nearly 26,000 cubic feet of House records under the custody and archival care of the National Archives. See especially Chapter 21, which discusses the records of the Committee on Ways and Means. A companion volume, Robert W. Coren, et al., *Guide to the Records of the Senate at the National Archives, 1789-1989* (S. Doc. 100-42) is also available for Senate records.

A listing of the published primary and secondary source materials consulted by the authors, and arranged by subject, appears below.

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The following source material was used to provide additional biographical and legislative information pertaining to the history, legislation and membership of the House Committee on Ways and Means.

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