What It Is

The Congressional Serial Set is composed of publications compiled by order of Congress. Although
the criteria for what material was included in the Serial Set changed over time, in general it contains
congressional documents and selected other material from the executive branch and
nongovernmental organizations.

Congressional publications in the Serial Set include House and Senate committee reports on
legislation; House and Senate manuals, administrative reports, and other internal publications; and
reports of investigations by or for Congress. Executive branch materials include messages from the
President; survey, research, and statistical publications; and annual reports of federal agencies.
Neither congressional debates nor committee hearings are included in the Serial Set.

The first 14 Congresses (1789-1816) were not part of the official Serial Set, and were published later in the American State Papers.

What We Own & Where It Is

1789 – 1951
Gov Info microprint, Readex U.S. Serial Set.
1 – 81st Congress (includes the American State Papers)
American State Papers # 01 - 038; Serial Set # 1 – 11483
Access is by Serial Set number and document series + number.

1951 – 1969
Gov Info microfiche, CIS U.S. Serial Set.
82nd – 91st Congress, 1st session
Serial Set # 11484 - 12880
Access is by Serial Set number and document series + number.

1970 – present
Gov Info microfiche, CIS Microfiche Library.
91st Congress, 2nd session – present
Access is by year and CIS number.
The CIS Microfiche Library includes all Serial Set material except
1. reports on private bills and ceremonial matters
2. texts of annual reports and other documents by executive branch departments that were issued by
those departments

1994-1995 – present
Internet, GPO Access
104th Congress - forward
Many House and Senate reports and documents are available on the Internet through GPO Access at either:

How to Find Information in the Serial Set (Indexes to the Serial Set)

1789 - 1969  CIS U.S. Serial Set Index.
Gov Info Reference  Z 1223 Z9 C65

1970 - present  CIS Index to Publications of the United States Congress.
Gov Info Reference  KF 49 C62

To find maps in the Serial Set:
Gov Info Reference  Z 1223 Z7 C62
How to Use the CIS Indexes

1789 – 1969        CIS U.S. Serial Set Index

Step 1. Select a time period and look up a topic in the subject index.

*example: Subject Index*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CALIFORNIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Report on Tulares valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.exdoc 110 (32-1) 621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serial Set number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>document series + number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congress + session</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(32nd Congress, first session)

Step 2. Take the document series + number, Congress + session, and the Serial Set number to the Maps & Gov Info desk. We will retrieve the material from our microprint or microfiche sets.

1970 - Present        CIS Index to Publications of the U.S. Congress

Step 1: Choose a time period and look up a topic or name in the index volume for that period. CIS-abstract numbers which have a third digit* of 0, 3, 4 or 5 are Serial Set documents. (Others are committee prints or hearings, and not part of the Serial Set.)

*example: Index Volume, Subjects and Names*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biotechnology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human cloning research, prohibition against Fed funds use,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H703-12 CIS abstract number</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*3 indicates it is part of the Serial Set*

Step 2: Look up the abstract number in the abstract volume for the SAME YEAR as of the index volume you used. The abstract volume gives a full description and summary of the item.

*example: Abstract Volume*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>H703-12</th>
<th>HUMAN CLONING RESEARCH PROHIBITION ACT.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H Doc Rm</td>
<td>CIS/MF/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 1008-C; 1008-D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>°Y1.1/8:105-239/PT.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommends passage, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute, of H.R. 922, the Human Cloning Research Prohibition Act, to prohibit the expenditure of Federal funds to conduct … .

Step 3: Take the index year, CIS abstract number, and SuDoc # to the Maps & Gov Info desk for access to the CIS Microfiche Library or the U.S. depository collection.

C. Doyle 13 March 2007