

New York State Public Policy – Sources of Information

Legislation

McKinney's Consolidated Laws of New York ULIB & DEWEY LAW KFN 5030 M34

New York Consolidated Law Service ULIB LAW KFN 5030 A28x

Both of the above sets are codes of NYS law. They provide the current statutory law arranged alphabetically by subject. Both have multi-volume subject indexes as well as popular name tables. These sets are published by commercial publishing companies. The text of the actual law is identical in both sets, but each has its own editorial enhancements. *McKinneys* is available thru the *Westlaw Campus* database and *New York Consolidated Law Service* is available thru either the *Lexisnexis Academic Universe* or *State Capital Universe* databases. The databases can be accessed thru the Libraries' homepage (<http://library.albany.edu>) under "Databases & Indexes".

McKinneys Session Laws of New York DEWEY LAW KFN 5025

Provides the text of each piece of legislation (except for annual appropriations laws) enacted by the legislature and signed by the governor. Includes some memoranda and veto messages.

New York Jurisprudence 2nd DEWEY LAW & ULIB LAW KFN 5065 N48 1979

A legal encyclopedia of NYS law providing summaries of the law and references to the statutory law.

The New York Legislative Annual DEWEY REF & ULIB REF JK 3401 N48

Includes summaries of bills, memoranda supporting or opposing legislation, and the Governor's approval or veto message. There are several indexes including subject and popular name.

The Legislative History of New York State Law, a tutorial and guide to library sources <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/leghist/> . Explains how to access bill jackets which may contain documents either in support and/or opposed to particular legislation. Bill jackets from 1996 – 2004 are available thru *Westlaw.com* (contact Dick Irving at Dewey for access to *Westlaw.com*).

Proposed Legislation – Bills

State Capital Universe <http://library.albany.edu> – "Databases & Indexes".

State of New York Legislative Digest Dewey LAW & ULIB LAW KFN 5006 N48x

An excellent source for finding which elected official is offering bills on a policy issue. It provides a brief summary of bills for each legislative session with a complete history of the bill's movement thru the legislative process. There are subject indexes to bills and laws as well as complete texts of the Governor's approval or veto messages, and executive orders.

Bills introduced in the current legislative sessions can be accessed from the web sites of either the NYS Senate, <http://www.senate.state.ny.us/> , or NYS Assembly, <http://assembly.state.ny.us/> .

The Issues

PAIS DEWEY REF H 1 Z999 P3 or <http://library.albany.edu> – “Databases & Indexes”. While international in scope, ***PAIS*** is published in New York and relies upon the collections of the New York Public Library. As such it provides references to many public and social policy materials relevant to New York including key documents published by state agencies.

Empire State report; The Magazine of Politics and Policy in New York ULIB PER JK 3401 E46
Monthly magazine reporting on current New York issues. Indexed in ***PAIS***.

Westlaw Campus and **LexisNexis Academic** are excellent sources for law review articles (law reviews are periodicals published by law schools) and newspaper articles.

The New York State Directory ULIB REF & DEWEY REF JK 3430 N53x
Annual publication providing references to executive departments, legislative committees, public authorities, commissions, advocacy and lobbying groups. Web sites are referred to when available. Also, lists the Public Information office for each agency and references private organizations with interests in a policy area.

New York State Government, by Robert Ward. DEWEY JK 3416 W37 2006.
Provides an excellent overview of NYS government and some major policy issues. The 2002 edition is in Reference.

New York State Documents

The University Libraries have some NYS documents in our collections. You can search for them in the online catalog, ***Minerva***. If you perform a corporate author search be flexible. For example:

New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Or

New York state Department of Environmental Conservation

Or

New York State Environmental Conservation Department

The New York State Library (NYSL) is the best source for NYS documents. You can access their online catalog, *Excelsior*, via the Internet at <http://nysl.nysed.gov/uhtbin/cgiirsi/NbxG0RL3c5/0/0/49>

Again, be flexible with corporate author searches. For example:

New York State Legislature. Assembly. Committee on Environmental Conservation

Or

New York State Legislature. Assembly. Environmental Conservation Committee

Or

New York State Legislature. Environmental Conservation Committee

Excelsior provides an Internet link to some documents.

The NYS Assembly and NYS Senate make the text of some of their legislative reports available at their web sites.

NYS Government Information Locator Service <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/ils/>

State agencies and the state legislature are increasingly relying on the Internet to disseminate information. This site is an excellent starting place to find their web sites.