May 2025

Bills 1989 to 2008 Codebook

cong: The numerical ranking of the Congress in which a bill was introduced.

billtype: An abbreviation indicating the type of bill.

hconres = House Concurrent Resolution
hjres = House Joint Resolution
hr = House of Representatives Bill
hres = House Resolution
s = Senate Bill
sconres = Senate Concurrent Resolution
sjres = Senate Joint Resolution
sres = Senate Resolution

billno: The number associated with the bill.

yearofintr: The year in which the bill was introduced in Congress.

session: Equals 1 for bills introduced in the first session and 2 for those in the second session.

catog_cosine: Cosine score reporting the similarity between a court curbing provision and its original. For bills with multiple provisions, this is the mean cosine score.

clarkbill: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 when the bill appears in Clark's (2011) original data.

clarkomit_original: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 when the bill is omitted from Clark's original data but includes one or more provisions that are identical or nearly identical to provisions that appear in the original data.

clarkomit_category: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 when the bill is omitted from Clark's original data but includes one or more provisions that are similar to provisions that appear in the original data.

clarkomit_category2: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 when a bill that is omitted from Clark's original data includes provisions that are similar, but not identical or nearly identical, to provisions that appear in the original data.

newbill: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill does not appear in Clark's original data and exclusively contains provisions that are unrelated to any identified by Clark.

omittedbill: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill does not appear in Clark's original data.

original: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes the first documented appearance of a court curbing provision.

amendment: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes a proposed amendment to the Constitution.

liberal_bill: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more liberal court curbing provisions. The ideology of narrow provisions is determined by policy content. The ideology of broad provisions is determined by the DW Nominate score of the sponsor (see *nominate_dim1* below).

mixed_bill: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes both liberal and conservative court curbing provisions.

Note: Only 2 of 855 bills are mixed.

namefirst: Bill sponsor's first name.

namelast: Bill sponsor's last name.

pooleid: Member ICPSR ID number (Lewis et al. 2025).

nominate_dim1: First dimension DW Nominate Score (Lewis et al. 2025). Scores approaching -1 indicate more liberal members, while scores approaching +1 indicate more conservative members.

loc_liberal_abortion: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's liberal abortion decisions.

loc_conserv_abortion: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's conservative abortion decisions.

loc_liberal_brthctzn: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's liberal birthright citizenship decisions.

loc_conserv_cmpnfnce: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's conservative campaign finance decisions.

loc_conserv_cnsmrrghts: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's conservative consumer rights decisions.

loc_liberal_crimjust: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's liberal criminal justice decisions.

loc_conserv_crimjust: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's conservative criminal justice decisions.

loc_liberal_takings: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's liberal takings decisions.

loc_liberal_relifree: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's liberal religious freedom decisions.

loc_conserv_relifree: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's conservative religious freedom decisions.

loc_conserv_fmlyreun: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's conservative family reunification decisions.

loc_conserv_fdrlism: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's conservative federalism decisions.

loc_liberal_flagburn: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's liberal flag burning decisions.

loc_liberal_lgbtqpls: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's liberal LGBTQ+ rights decisions.

loc_liberal_prespower: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's liberal presidential power decisions.

loc_liberal_obscenty: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's liberal obscenity decisions.

loc_liberal_schoolint: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's liberal school integration decisions.

loc_conserv_scndamnd: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's conservative Second Amendment decisions.

loc_liberal_taxation: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's liberal taxation decisions.

loc_liberal_transjud: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's liberal precedents citing international law (transjudicialism).

loc_conserv_wrkdiscr: Dummy variable taking on the value of 1 if the bill includes one or more provisions curbing the Court's conservative workplace discrimination decisions.

References

Clark, Tom S. 2011. *The Limits of Judicial Independence*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Lewis, Jeffrey B., Keith Poole, Howard Rosenthal, Adam Boche, Aaron Rudkin, and Luke Sonnet (2025). *Voteview: Congressional Roll-Call Votes Database*. https://voteview.com/.