

**Variable Codebook**  
**Rohde/PIPC House Roll Call Database**  
**83rd Congress to present**  
**Codebook last updated – February 11, 2016-September 4, 2018**

**READ THIS EVEN IF YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE DATASET:**

This dataset represents the latest iteration in a project that was started by David Rohde and has been worked on by many scholars over many years. This newest version now scrapes information from the [Clerk of the House](#) each night and codes the “vote type” variable based on computer code rather than relying on the judgment of individuals. For the first time, the dataset will now always include the most recent votes and vote type codes. All votes from the 101<sup>st</sup> Congress to the present are coded using a computer program while votes from the 83<sup>rd</sup>-100<sup>th</sup> Congress are the original hand-coded votes. Unfortunately, our program is not able to code for “Issue Type” so this variable stops in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress. We have now merged in Policy Agenda Codes up to the first session of the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress. Here is there codebook [https://comparativeagendas.s3.amazonaws.com/codebookfiles/Topics\\_Codebook\\_2014.pdf](https://comparativeagendas.s3.amazonaws.com/codebookfiles/Topics_Codebook_2014.pdf). Please cite them accordingly if you use their data.

Since we are using automated rules, this means the coding should be much more consistent but also means any mistakes will be repeated until caught. It also means there will be occasional votes that our computer code cannot classify based off of the information available. These votes are coded as “?” and the Carl Albert Center will hand code them as needed.

The computer code was written by Austin Clemens (austinc@mac.com) in partnership with Michael Crespin (Carl Albert Center, University of Oklahoma). We used the hand-coded votes from previous dataset as a “training set” starting with the first votes available on the Clerk’s web page for the 101<sup>st</sup> Congress. We then matched the computer coded votes with the hand-coded votes and looked for any discrepancies. A human decided on the correct vote type and the computer code was changed until the two datasets matched. This iterative method allowed us to find mistakes in the previous dataset. For example, we found that many motions to order the previous question (88) should have been coded motion to move the previous question on a special rule (99).<sup>1</sup> We also noticed some differences in the coding of amendments. These votes are tricky to code by hand using the short descriptions and the Clerks vary in how they describe these votes over the years. That being said, we ask that anyone who wishes to specifically examine the degree of an amendment (1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>) look carefully at the votes themselves.

We also urge scholars interested in examining cross chamber proceedings to look closely at the votes. The previous version of the dataset sometimes coded “motion to agree to senate amendments” or “agree to senate amendments” as “motions to agree” (73). However, the dataset also has a code (97) for “motions to recede and concur” AND “motion to concur”. Our computer code now treats these the same so starting in the 101<sup>st</sup> Congress, they are all coded as 97 indicating action on legislation from the senate. Note that “Suspend the rules and concur” (68) is separate though due to the suspension of the rules.

Over time, we will examine these votes prior to the 101<sup>st</sup> Congress and recode and update if necessary.

The data is provided by Michael Crespin and the Carl Albert Center. Previous versions were provided by the Political Institutions and Public Choice Program at Duke University and Michigan State University. Questions may be directed to Prof. Crespin at [crespin@ou.edu](mailto:crespin@ou.edu).

**Citation:** Please cite this dataset as follows:

Crespin, Michael H. and David Rohde. [date] Political Institutions and Public Choice Roll-Call Database. Retrieved from <https://ou.edu/carlalbertcenter/research/pipc-votes/>

There are additional notes from previous versions of the dataset at the end of the codebook as well.

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<sup>1</sup> Many of these were due to the wording of the vote description and were previous question motions on resolutions waiving the same day requirement on special rules. In essence, a special rule for a special rule.

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>CONG</b>	Congress number
<b>SESSION</b>	Session number
<b>YEAR</b>	Year
<b>VIEX</b>	Vote Roll Call (numbered within each session according to CQ roll call books)
<b>V1</b>	Vote Roll Call (numbered using the CQ scheme, though numbered continuously over both sessions of each congress)
<b>VOTEVIEW</b>	Vote Roll Call (numbered according to the roll call data from <a href="http://voteview.com/">http://voteview.com/</a> ) through 112 <sup>th</sup> Congress
<b>VOTE</b>	Vote type ( <b>see codebook below</b> )
<b>ISSUE</b>	Issue on which vote is take ( <b>see codebook below</b> ) (Stops in 112 <sup>th</sup> Congress)
<b>PRES</b>	Presidential position (0 = No position; 1 = Aye; 2 = Nay – from CQ) (Needs to be hand coded and updated)
<b>TOTAL</b>	Total number of votes
<b>V2</b>	Total number of Aye votes
<b>V3</b>	Total number of Nay votes
<b>V4</b>	Total Number of Democratic Aye Votes
<b>V5</b>	Total Number of Democratic Nay Votes
<b>V6</b>	Total Number of Republican Aye Votes
<b>V7</b>	Total Number of Republican Nay Votes
<b>V8</b>	Total Number of Northern Democratic Aye Votes
<b>V9</b>	Total Number of Northern Democratic Nay Votes
<b>V10</b>	Total Number of Southern Democratic Aye Votes
<b>V11</b>	Total Number of Southern Democratic Nay Votes
<b>V12</b>	Total Number of Northern Republican Aye Votes
<b>V13</b>	Total Number of Northern Republican Nay Votes
<b>V14</b>	Total Number of Southern Republican Aye Votes
<b>V15</b>	Total Number of Southern Republican Nay Votes
<b>V16</b>	Presence of a Party Unity Vote (majority of one party opposing a majority of the other)
<b>V17</b>	Presence of a Conservative Coalition Vote (majority of Republicans and a majority of southern Democrats opposing a majority of northern Democrats)
<b>V18</b>	Presence of a Near Unanimous Vote (90% or more voting one way)
<b>V19</b>	Presence of a ND/R Vote (majority of northern Democrats opposing a majority of Republicans)
<b>BILLTYPE1</b>	Bill type(s) (i.e. H.R., H. Res., H. Concurrent Res., S., etc...)
<b>BILLNUM1</b>	Number(s) assigned to bill
<b>QUESTION</b>	The nature of the vote under consideration as reported by the Clerk
<b>Amendment</b>	Information about amendment offered
<b>Title_Description</b>	Description of vote/additional information of vote type from Clerk
<b>url</b>	url for vote margins
<b>Question2</b>	Additional information on vote
<b>Bill_title</b>	Title of Bill/additional information

<b>Amendment2</b>	Additional amendment information
<b>Amendment3</b>	Additional amendment information
<b>pap_majortopic</b>	Policy Agenda Major Topic
<b>pap_subtopic</b>	Policy Agenda sub-topic

### VOTE TYPE CODING

1	Amendments to the Constitution (usually titled a Joint Resolution)
9	Quorum call
11	Final Passage/Adoption of a <i>Bill</i>
12	Final Passage/Adoption of <i>Conference Report</i>
13	Final Passage/Adoption of <i>Resolution</i>
14	Final Passage/Adoption of <i>Joint Resolution</i>
15	Passage/Adoption of a <i>Bill</i> under <u>Suspension</u> of the Rules
16	Passage/Adoption of a <i>Joint Resolution</i> under <u>Suspension</u> of the Rules
17	Final Passage/Adoption of <i>Concurrent Resolution</i>
18	Passage/Adoption of a <i>Concurrent Resolution</i> under <u>Suspension</u> of the Rules
19	Passage/Adoption of a <i>Resolution</i> under <u>Suspension</u> of the Rules
21	Straight Amendments (includes en bloc & amendments in the nature of a substitute)
22	Amendments to Amendments
23	Substitute (to an amendment)
24	Motion to Table Amendment
25	Amendment to Amendment to Substitute
26	Perfecting Amendment
27	Amendment to Substitute
28	Perfecting Amendment to Substitute
29	Suspension of Rules to Amend Bill
30	Passage over Presidential Veto
31	Adoption of First Part of Resolution
32	Adoption of Second Part of Resolution (or part of resolution after the first)
33	Suspension of Rules for Conference Report
56	Motion to Discharge
63	Motion to Reconsider
64	Motion to Waive
66	Motion to Proceed
67	Appeal of the Chair's Ruling
68	Motion to Suspend the Rules and Concur
69	Miscellaneous
72	Motion to Recommit to Conference

- 73 Motion to Agree (Note motions to agree with Senate amendments coded as 97)
- 74 Motion to Postpone
- 75 Motion to Delete
- 76 Motion to End Debate
- 77 Motion to Rise from the Committee of the Whole
- 79 Motion to Disagree
  
- 80 Amendment to Special Rule
- 81 Passage of Rules (Special Rule)
- 82 Motion to Recede
- 83 Motion to Commit
- 84 Motion to Consider
- 85 Demand for a Second
- 86 Motion to Permit to Read from Record
- 87 Motion to Refer
- 88 Motion to Order Previous Question (Note: Previous Question on Special Rule is 99)
- 89 Election of Speaker
  
- 90 Motion to Strike
- 91 Motion to Approve House Journal
- 92 Motion to Adjourn
- 93 Motion to Recommit (Note: Recommit to Conference is 72)
- 94 Motion to Resolve into the Committee of the Whole
- 95 Motion to Instruct Conferees
- 96 Motion to Table
- 97 Motion to Recede and Concur (also includes motion to concur)
- 98 Dispense with Further Proceedings under the Quorum Call
- 99 Previous Question on Special Rules
- ? Unable to auto=code based on available information. Will update when needed.



**ISSUE TYPE CODING**  
**(Now Legacy Coding, Use Policy Agenda Project)**

000's	Symbolic, Internal, and Procedural
100's & 200's	Appropriations
300's	Defense
400's	Foreign Policy
500's	Economy, Taxes, and Budget
600's	Energy and Environment
700's	Government Operations, Civil Rights, and Justice
800's	Welfare and Human Services
900's	Miscellaneous Domestic

**000's Symbolic, Internal, and Procedural**

0	0	0	Purely Procedural
0		1	Election of the Speaker
0	1	0	Indiana House Seat
0		1	Protest Procedural Votes
0		2	Committee Funding
0		3	Congressional Staff
0		4	Committee Issues
0		5	Contested Elections
0	2	0	Congressional Misdeeds
0		1	Contempt of Congress
0		2	Congressional Ethics
0		3	Congress Allowances/ Pay Raises
0		4	Impeachment
0		5	Buildings and Offices
0		6	House Post Office Scandal
0	30's		Confirmations
0	3	0	Vice-president
0		1	Cabinet
0		2	Supreme Court
0		3	Ambassadors
0		4	Agency/ Bureau Heads, etc.
0		6	House Bank Scandal
0	80's		Other
0	8	0	Line Item Veto/ Rescissions
0		1	Unfunded Mandates
0		2	Regulatory Moratorium
0	90's		Miscellaneous
0	9	0	House Rules (e.g., beginning of session)
0		1	House Powers (vis-à-vis President & Senate)

0		2	Senate Rules
0		9	Symbolic Miscellaneous

100 and 200's **Appropriations**

1	00's	Commerce, Justice, State, Judiciary, and Related Issues	
1	0		0 Final Passage
1			1 Foreign Economic Aid
1			2 Foreign Military Aid
1			3 Abortion
1			4 Commerce
1			5 Justice
1			6 State
1			7 Judiciary
1			8 Civil Rights
1			9 Miscellaneous
1	10's	Defense	
1	1		0 Final Passage
1			1 Weapons General
1			2 MX Missile
1			3 VA
1			4 Army
1			5 Navy
1			6 Air Force
1			7 B1
1			8 Reserve Call-up
1			9 Miscellaneous
1	20's		
1	2		1 Vietnam Military
1			2 Troop Levels
1			3 SDI/ABM
1			4 Deployment
1			5 B2
1			6 Military War on Drugs
1	30's	Energy and Water Development	
1	3		0 Final Passage
1			1 Public Works Related
1			2 Energy
1			3 Environment
1			4 Energy Subsidies for Poor
1			5 Nuclear Energy
1			9 Miscellaneous

1	40's	Foreign Operations		
1	4		0	Final Passage
1			1	Foreign Economic Aid
1			2	General Aid
1			3	International Organizations
1			5	Foreign Military Aid
1			9	Miscellaneous
1	50's	HUD and Independent Agencies (and VA since 101 <sup>st</sup> )		
1	5		0	Final Passage
1			1	Housing
1			2	NASA
1			3	AEC
1			4	Urban Aid
1			5	EPA/ Pollution
1			6	VA (Switched from DOD in 101 <sup>st</sup> )
1			9	Miscellaneous
1	60's	Interior and Related		
1	6		0	Final Passage
1			1	Energy
1			2	Disaster Relief
1			3	Environmental
1			4	NEA/ Art & Indecency
1			9	Miscellaneous
1	70's	Labor, Health, Human Services, and Education		
1	7		0	Final Passage
1			1	Labor
1			2	Health
1			3	Human Services-Welfare
1			4	Education
1			5	Health-Social Issues (AIDS/ Abortion)
1			6	Civil Rights/ Segregation
1			9	Miscellaneous
1	80's	Legislative		
1	8		0	Final Passage
1			1	Office Buildings
1			2	Staff Funding
1			3	Committee Funding
1			4	Congressional Pay
1			9	Miscellaneous
1	90's	Military Construction		
1	9		0	Final Passage
1			9	Miscellaneous
2	00's	Rural Development and Agriculture		



2	0		0	Final Passage
2			1	Agricultural Subsidies
2			2	Farm Credit
2			3	Soil Conservation
2			4	Non-Agricultural Loans
2			5	Food Stamps
2			9	Miscellaneous
2	10's	Transportation (& Treasury & HUD as of 108 <sup>th</sup> Congress)		
2	1		0	Final Passage
2			1	Amtrak/Public Rail
2			2	Mass Transit
2			3	Highway Funding
2			4	Airport Development
2			5	Air Regulations
2			9	Miscellaneous
2	20's	Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government		
2	2		0	Final Passage
2			1	Treasury
2			2	Postal Service
2			3	General Government
2			4	Executive Offices
2			5	Salaries
2			6	War on Drugs
2			9	Miscellaneous
2	30's			
2	3		0	Spending Deferrals and Impoundment
2	40's	District of Columbia		
2	4		0	Final Passage
			1	Abortion
			9	Miscellaneous
2	50s	Homeland Security		
2	5		0	Final Passage
2			9	Miscellaneous
2	60's			
2	6		0	Aggregate Deferrals/ Rescissions
2			1	Appropriations Procedures
2	70's	Continuing Appropriations		
2	7		0	Final Passage
2			9	Miscellaneous
2	80's	Omnibus		
2	8		0	Omnibus Final Passage
2			9	Omnibus Miscellaneous
2			9	0's Supplemental
2	9		0	Supplemental Final Passage

2		9	Supplemental Miscellaneous
300's			
<b>Defense</b>			
3	00's		Miscellaneous Defense
3	0	0	Coast Guard
3		1	Selective Service
3		2	National Guard
3		9	Miscellaneous
3	10's		Budget/Authorization
3	1	0	Final Passage
3		1	Military Pay
3		2	Civilian Defense Pay
3		3	Procurement Budget
3		4	NATO/ Japan Burden-sharing
3		5	Vietnam
3		6	Defense and Energy
3		9	Miscellaneous
3	20's & 30's		Weapons Systems
3	2	0	MX Missile
3		1	Trident II
3		2	Chemical Weapons
3		3	SDI/ ABM
3		4	ASAT
3		5	B1
3		6	B2
3		7	Midgetman
3	3	0	Land Warfare
3		1	Aircraft
3		2	Naval Forces
3		3	General Weapons
3		9	Miscellaneous
3	40's		Veteran's Issues
3	4	0	Benefits
3		1	VA Mortgages
3		2	Military Retirement
3		7	POW Issues
3		8	Symbolic
3		9	Miscellaneous
3	50's		Pentagon Bureaucracy
3	5	4	Military Base Closures
3		5	Defense Organization and Reorganization
3		6	Espionage

3		7	Security and Civil Liberties
3		8	Military Construction/ Bases
3		9	Miscellaneous
3	60's		Intelligence
3	6	0	Authorization
3		1	Covert Action
3		2	Oversight
3		8	Symbolic
3		9	Miscellaneous
3	70's		Procurement Procedures
3	7	0	Waste/ Mismanagement
3		1	Contracting
3		9	Miscellaneous
3	80's		War Powers
3	8	0	Committing U.S. Troops to Specific Locations
3		1	General Issue of Committing Troops
3		2	War Powers Act
3		3	Drug Interdiction
3		4	Military Assistance
3		5	Persian Gulf War
3		7	Troop Levels
3		8	Reserve Call-up
3		9	Miscellaneous
3	90's		NASA & AEC
3	9	0	NASA Shuttle and Space Transportation
3		1	Overall NASA Spending
3		2	Department of Energy Nuclear
3		7	Nuclear Testing and Arms Control
3		8	General AEC/ IAEA
3		9	Miscellaneous

#### 400's **Foreign Policy**

4	0	0	Immigration
4		1	Embassy Regulations and Diplomatic Immunity
4		2	Foreign Loans
4		7	NATO
4		8	Central American Military Activity
4		9	Miscellaneous
4	10's		Foreign Aid
4	1	0	General Foreign Aid
4		1	Foreign Economic Aid
4		2	Economic Aid to Non-governmental Groups
4		3	Foreign Aid and Family Planning

4		4	Food for Peace
4		5	Foreign Military Aid
4		6	Military Aid to Non-governmental Groups
4		7	Peace Corps
4		8	Foreign Military Sales
4		9	Miscellaneous
4	20's		Human Rights
4	2	0	Soviet Human Rights
4		1	Apartheid (Human Rights)
4		2	Rhodesia/ Zimbabwe
4		3	Economic Sanctions (Any nation)
4		8	Symbolic Human Rights
4		9	Miscellaneous Human Rights with Substantive Concerns
4	30's		State Department and Other Funding
4	3	0	State Department General Funding
4		1	UN
4		2	International Financial Institutions (IMF)
4		3	USIA/ Radio Marti
4		9	Miscellaneous
4	40's		Soviet Union/ Warsaw Pact
4	4	1	Economic Sanctions
4		2	Immigration
4		3	MFN Status
4		9	Miscellaneous
4	50's		
4	5	0	Nuclear Technology Transfer
4		1	Military Technology Transfer
4		2	Arms Trade
4	60's		Arms Control
4	6	0	Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
4		2	SALT 2 Non-treaty
4		3	INF Treaty
4		4	Nuclear Safety (misc. nuclear)
4		5	SALT 2
4		6	Nuclear Non-proliferation
4		7	Peace Treaties
4		8	Arms Control Symbolic
4		9	Miscellaneous
4	70's		
4	7	0	Terrorism
4		1	Hijacking
4		2	International War on Drugs
4	80's		
4	8	0	Israel

4		1	Hostages
4		2	China/ Taiwan
4		3	Iraq/ Kuwait
4	90's		
4	9	0	Vietnam
4		1	Panama Canal
4		8	Miscellaneous Symbolic Foreign Policy

### 500's Economy, Taxes, and Budget Issues

5	00's & 10's Taxes		
5	0	0	Tax Overhaul
5		1	Tax Cuts
5		2	Tax Increase
5		3	Depletion Allowances
5		5	Windfall Profits Tax
5		6	Gas Tax
5		7	Excise Taxes
5		8	Symbolic Taxes
5		9	Miscellaneous Taxes
5	1	0	Capital Gains Tax
5		1	Estate Tax
5	20's Budget		
5	2	0	Final Passage Budget Resolution
5		3	Budget Procedures
5		4	Budget Reconciliation
5		5	Deficit Reduction/ Balanced Budget
5		6	Gramm-Rudman (mechanisms)
5		7	Balanced Budget Amendment
5		9	Miscellaneous
5	30's Budget		
5	3	0	Budget—Defense
5		1	Budget—Domestic
5		2	Budget—Foreign Policy
5		3	Budget—Taxes
5		4	Budget Authority/ Target—General
5		5	Budget—Procedural
5	40's Economy-Foreign Trade		
5	4	0	Japanese Trade
5		2	Federal Trade Commission
5		3	Unfair Trading Practices (non-Japanese)
5		4	Export Controls
5		5	Compensation to U.S. Businesses and Workers
5		6	Export-Import Bank (later U.S. Export Bank)

5		7	Tariff Negotiations
5		8	Import Quotas-Tariffs
5		9	Miscellaneous
5	50's		Domestic Trade
5	5	0	American Shipping
5		1	Commerce Regulation
5		2	SBA Programs
5		3	Business Subsidies
5		4	Foreign Businesses in U.S.
5		9	Miscellaneous
5	60's		General Economy and Debt
5	6	0	Debt Limit
5		1	Wage and Price Control
5		2	Full Employment Legislation
5	70's		Financial Regulation (including Stock Market)
5	7	0	Banking Regulation
5		1	Credit Regulation
5		2	Anti-Trust Issues
5		3	Wage and Price Control
5		4	Securities Regulation
5		5	Commodities Regulation
5		6	Dollar Devaluation/ Monetary Policy
5		7	Pensions
5		8	Federal Reserve
5		9	Miscellaneous
5	80's		
5	8	0	Electronic Communication Regulations and Operations (e.g. television, radio, FCC)
5	90's		
5	9	0	American Investments Abroad
5		1	International Fishing and Mining
5		2	International Market Stabilization

### 600's **Energy and Environment**

600-649 Energy

6	00's		Government Controls
6	0	0	Natural Gas/Petrol. Pricing, Allocations/Emerg.
6		1	Natural Gas/Petroleum Marketing
6		2	Energy Regulations
6		3	National Energy Policy
6		4	Offshore Oil
6		5	Exploration and Distribution

6		6	Strategic Petroleum Reserve
6		7	Alaska Pipeline
6		8	Oil Import Fee
6		9	Miscellaneous
6	10's		Energy Subsidies
6	1	0	Consumption Subsidies for Poor and Elderly
6	2	0	Mileage Regulations
6		1	FEA—general
6	4	0	Research and Development & Demonstration (e.g. alternative fuels)

#### 650-699 Environment

6	50's		Industrial Pollution
6	5	0	Industrial Waste
6		1	Superfund
6		2	Business Liability for Pollution/Oil Spill
6		3	Hazardous Substances
6		9	Miscellaneous
6	60's		Major Environmental Programs
6	6	0	Clean Water Act & Water Quality
6		1	Water Projects (Public Works)
6		2	Nuclear Waste
6		3	Nuclear Power
6		4	Clean Air Act & Air Quality
6		5	Timber and Forestry
6		6	Solid & Hazardous Waste
6		7	Mining (e.g. Strip or Surface Mining)
6		8	EPA
6		9	Miscellaneous
6	70's		Parks & Wildlife and Seashores
6	7	0	National Parks and Seashores
6		1	Fish & Wildlife Administration
6		2	Businesses on Public Land
6		3	Transfer of Public Lands
6		4	Endangered Species
6		9	Miscellaneous
6	8	0	FEMA/Disaster Relief
6	90's		Major Environmental Programs (cont'd from 660's)
6	9	0	Noise Pollution
6		1	Vehicle Emissions
6		2	Land Use

#### 700's Government Operations, Civil Rights, and Justice

7	0	0	D.C. Governance
7		1	Government Reorganization
7		2	Govt. Employee Pay
7		3	Govt. Employee Retirement
7		4	Govt. Employee Benefits
7		5	Govt. Employee Regulation (Hatch Act)
7		6	Civil Service & Reform
7		8	Public Construction
7		9	Miscellaneous
7	10's		Operations within Executive, Judiciary
7	1	0	Maritime
7		1	Sunshine Regulations
7		2	Post Office
7		6	Treasury/IRS
7		7	Executive
7		8	Judiciary
7		9	Miscellaneous
7	20's & 30's		Civil Rights
7	2	0	Pay Equity
7		1	Voting Rights Act
7		2	School Desegregation
7		3	Civil Rights Commission
7		4	Age Discrimination
7		5	Poll Tax
7		6	General Civil Rights
7		7	Busing
7		8	Civil Rights Act
7		9	Race Discrimination in Employment
7	3	0	Domestic Radicals and Unrest
7		1	Criminal Procedures
7		2	Internal Security/HUAC
7		3	Free Speech/Flag Burning
7		4	MLK Holiday
7		5	Gay Rights
7		6	Race Discrimination in Federal Grants
7		7	Quotas
7		8	Fair Housing
7		9	Miscellaneous
7	40's		Campaigns & Elections
7	4	0	Campaign Finance
7		1	Election Procedures
7		2	Federal Election Commission
7		3	Equal Time/Fairness



7			4	Voter Registration
7			5	Redistricting
7			6	Congressional Term Limits
7			9	Miscellaneous
7	50's	Crime & Criminal Justice		
7	5		0	Gun Control
7			1	Pornography
7			2	Organized Crime
7			3	Drug Control
7			4	Law Enforcement Asst. Act/other State Aid
7			5	Death Penalty
7			6	Domestic Violence
7			7	Drug Testing/Lie Detection
7			8	Criminal Procedures
7			9	Miscellaneous (including hate crimes)
7	70's	Ethics in Government		
7	7		0	Lobbying
7			1	Independent Counsel
7			2	Watergate
7			3	Ethics in Government Act
7			4	Scandal (e.g. Whitewater)
7	80's	Homeland Security		
7	8		0	Homeland Security
			1	Patriot Act

**800's Welfare and Human Services**

8	00's	Social Security & Medicare		
8	0		0	Social Security Benefits
8			1	Social Security Financing
8			2	Medicare
8			3	Disability
8			9	Miscellaneous (fraud)
8	10's	Social Welfare		
8	1		0	Job Bills
8			1	Welfare Benefits/ Social Services
8			2	Community Services
8			3	Legal Services Corporation
8			4	Medicaid
8			5	CETA
8			6	Job Training
8			9	Miscellaneous
8	20's	Medical (see also 940's)		

8	2		0	Medical Construction
8			1	Cigarettes
8			2	Drug Abuse/ Education
8			3	Other Health Insurance (e.g. SCHIP)
8			4	HMOs
8			5	AIDS
8			9	Miscellaneous
8	30's	Poverty		
8	3		0	Economic Development/ Appalachia
8			1	Nutrition Programs (poverty-oriented)
8			2	Family Assistance
8			3	Office of Economic Opportunity
8			4	VISTA/ ACTION
8			5	Homeless
8			9	Miscellaneous
8	40's	Middle Class Assistance		
8	4		0	General School Lunch
8			1	Home Mortgages
8			2	Older Americans Programs
8			3	Child Care
8			4	Medical Leave
8			9	Miscellaneous
8	50's	Education		
8	5		0	Handicapped Education
8			1	Higher Education
8			2	Head Start, Elementary & Secondary
8			3	Vocational Education
8			4	Federally Impacted Areas Education
8			5	School Construction
8			6	Tuition Tax Credit
8			7	School Prayer
8			8	Department of Education
8			9	Miscellaneous
8	60's	Housing and Urban Development		
8	6		0	General Budget
8			1	HUD Programs
8			2	Public Construction
8			3	UDAG
8			4	Housing and Rent Subsidies
8			5	Demonstration Cities
8			9	Miscellaneous

900's Miscellaneous Domestic

9	00's	Federalism		
9	0		0	Countercyclical Aid
9			1	Revenue Sharing
9			2	New York City Aid
9			3	Federal Tax Compensation
9			9	Miscellaneous
9	10's	Agriculture		
9	1		1	Agricultural Subsidies/ Price Supports
9			2	Farm Credit
9			3	Production Controls
9			4	Soil Programs and Land Use
9			5	Food Stamps
9			6	Farm Labor
9			7	Emergency Aid
9			8	Agricultural & Rural Development
9			9	Miscellaneous
9	20's	Transportation		
9	2		0	Highway Funds
9			1	Rail Safety
9			2	Amtrak/ Public Rail
9			3	Airport & Airway Development
9			4	Highway Regulations
9			5	Mass Transit
9			6	Airline Regulation
9			7	Rail Regulations
9			9	Miscellaneous
9	30's	Women's Issues		
9	3		0	Equal Pay
9			1	ERA
9			2	Employment Discrimination
9			8	Symbolic Women's Issues
9			9	Miscellaneous
9	40's	Health & Human Services		
9	4		3	Hospital Costs
9			4	Public Health Service
9			5	Health Care for the Poor
9			6	Mental Health
9			7	Family Planning
9			8	Abortion
9			9	Miscellaneous (including NIH)
9	50's	Arts & Public T.V. (953-958		Science Research)
9	5		0	Arts and Humanities
9			1	PBS
9			7	National Science Foundation

9			8	Miscellaneous Science Research
9			9	Miscellaneous
9	60's	Labor		
9	6		0	Railroad Retirement Act
9			1	Labor Safety (OSHA)
9			2	Unemployment Assistance
9			3	Taft-Hartley
9			4	Right to Work
9			5	Davis-Bacon
9			6	Minimum Wage
9			7	Picketing and Striking
9			8	Labor Relations
9			9	Miscellaneous
9	70's	Consumer Issues		
9	7		0	Consumer Safety
9			1	Agency for Consumer Protection
9			2	Truth in Marketing/ Advertising
9			3	Product Liability
			4	FDA
9	90's	Miscellaneous		
9	9		0	Hispanic Issues
9			1	Language Issues
9			2	Indian Issues
9			3	Handicapped Issues & Programs
9			8	Interstate Compacts
9			9	Miscellaneous Domestic

## NOTES:

*These are the codebook notes from the January of 2010 update with some edits since the Senate votes are not in this file*

*There have been several changes from previous years. Therefore, use caution when using old .do files, as some codes may have changed.*

The most obvious change involved switching the DC Appropriations (120s) with the Defense codes in the 240s. Now, all Defense Appropriations can be found in the 110s and 120s. To avoid confusion when comparing roll call votes across datasets, we have included a variable to compare roll call votes between CQ and VOTEVIEW. These differences are caused by CQ collapsing some treaty votes into a single roll call vote.

A few points on coding philosophy are worth mentioning. If a vote appeared to be viable in two or more issue categories, we attempted to code in a manner that will provide researchers with the most information. For instance, a vote on abortion taken up in the context of the Defense Appropriations bill is categorized under abortion. In such situations when multiple issue codes may be relevant, it would be best to search all relevant codes rather than picking between them. In this example, search the codes for defense and abortion first, but then search for votes under the name of the overall defense appropriations bill (e.g. HR 1976). Using this strategy, we leave the researcher with the most information possible. Lastly, as a safeguard against missing relevant votes, it may also be helpful to search the votes in a given session with the same bill name and number. Third, a small number of issue and vote type codes have been added over the course of the dataset. However, this has been done only when new issues have been introduced into the political spectrum. We have attempted to avoid introducing new codes which cover issues coded differently in previous congresses, but once again, it may be more prudent to search using multiple issue codes if they are relevant.

In the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress, the House reorganized the appropriations sub-committees to include the Department of Homeland Security. These votes are coded in the 250s. Also, the Transportation and Treasury subcommittees were combined. For consistency, we continue to code votes other than final passage for the new sub-committees the same, however, final passage for this “new” subcommittee will be 210 and 220 should no longer be used.

One recurring issue is that of differentiating amendment types. In line with Oleszek (1996: 178), we distinguish between substitute amendments (coded 23) and amendments in the nature of a substitute (coded 21). The former act as a substitute for an existing amendment affecting part of a bill, while the latter offer new language for an entire bill. We consider substitute amendments a secondary attempt to alter an amendment, and amendments in the nature of a substitute a first-degree attempt to change the bill. Note that in recent Congresses, the language employed in the CQ Roll Call books has varied for these types of amendments and it has often become necessary to look at Thomas to ascertain which type of amendment is being considered.

According to our coding scheme, southern states include: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. Additionally, members classified as independents are coded as members of the party with which they most closely identify. For instance, Bernie Sanders (VT) caucuses with the Democratic Party so he is coded as such.