

Citation

Use of LobbyView data for academic purposes (presentations, working and conference papers, theses and dissertations, journal articles, software packages) requires that you cite the following paper:

Kim, In Song (2018). "LobbyView: Firm-level Lobbying & Congressional Bills Database." Working paper available from <http://web.mit.edu/insong/www/pdf/lobbyview.pdf>

Bill Data Export

This CSV export contains a complete copy of all congressional bills in our database. The underlying report data mention bills that a given registrant has lobbied, so this data can connect lobbying activity to legislation and from here to external datasets.

The below table specifies the columns provided in this CSV export. The fourth column, "Linked Datasets", describes which of our other CSV datasets can be linked to this column.

Bill Level Variables

Column Name	Description	Data Type	Linked Datasets
bill_id	Unique identifier for bills, concatenated from bill_chamber, bill_type, bill_number, and congress_num. Examples include: "hres967-93", "hjres1060-93", "sres319-93".	TEXT	Issue Text Data
bill_chamber	Denotes the chamber of origin of the bill ("House of Representatives" or "Senate")	TEXT	—
bill_type	Describes the type of legislation proposed. See the House and Senate websites for more details on these types.	TEXT	—
bill_number	Number assigned by the U.S. Congress in the order that it was introduced within a given congress. Unique within congress_number.	INT	—
congress_number	The Congress number during which the bill was proposed. Please see the Congress website for date ranges for each congress_num.	INT	—
introduced_date	Date of the bill's introduction, in YYYY-MM-DD format.	DATE	—
last_updated_status	The status of the bill as of our last update. See below for a complete listing of values for this field.	TEXT	—
summary_text	Short description of topics covered by the bill, sourced from ProPublica's Data Store in conjunction with the U.S. Digital Service	TEXT	—
bioguide_id	Third-party identifier for sponsor of bill, sourced from the Congressional Bioguide for members of Congress. The identifier consists of the first letter of a legislator's surname, followed by a six-digit number.	TEXT	Network Level Data, External Bioguide Data
first_name	First name of the sponsor of the bill.	TEXT	—
last_name	Surname of the sponsor of the bill.	TEXT	—

Bill Types

Our data uses 8 possible `bill_type` values, described below in descending order of commonness in our data. For more discussion of legislative process, see the [U.S. House of Representatives](#) or [U.S. Senate](#) webpages describing types of legislation.

bill_type	Full Name	Details
hr	House Resolution	Ordinary bill introduced in House of Representatives
s	Senate Resolution	Ordinary bill introduced in Senate
hres	House Simple Resolution	Expresses the sense of the House or changes House rules. No presidential signature required.
sres	Senate Simple Resolution	Expresses the sense of the Senate or changes Senate rules. No presidential signature required.
hconres	House Concurrent Resolution	Expresses the sense of both chambers or changes both chambers rules; also used for the budgeting process. No presidential signature required.
sjres	Senate Joint Resolution	Can be used for ordinary bills, but must be used for proposals to amend the Constitution.
sconres	Senate Concurrent Resolution	Expresses the sense of both chambers or changes both chambers rules; also used for the budgeting process. No presidential signature required.

last_updated_status field values

There are many possible values for the `last_updated_status` field. The following are typical (common) values, ranked in descending order of commonness:

last_updated_status	Notes
REFERRED	Referred to Committee
PASSED:SIMPLERES	
REPORTED	Reported from Committee back to Chamber
ENACTED:SIGNED	
PASS_OVER:HOUSE	
INTRODUCED	
PASS_OVER:SENATE	
PASSED:CONCURRENCIES	
PASS_BACK:SENATE	
PASSED:BILL	
PROV_KILL:VETO	President vetoed bill
PROV_KILL:SUSPENSIONFAILED	Suspension bill, using expedited rules consideration

Uncommon status occur in less than 0.01% of bill records:

Uncommon Status	Notes
FAIL:ORIGINATING:HOUSE	
PROV_KILL:CLOTUREFAILED	Senate unable to overcome filibuster of bill
PASS_BACK:HOUSE	
VETOED:POCKET	Congress adjourned without president signing/vetoing



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Uncommon Status	Notes
FAIL:ORIGINATING:SENATE	
VETOED:OVERRIDE_FAIL_ORIGINATING:HOUSE	President vetoed, House was unable to override veto
ENACTED:VETO_OVERRIDE	President vetoed, vetoed overridden
CONFERENCE:PASSED:HOUSE	
VETOED:OVERRIDE_FAIL_ORIGINATING:SENATE	President vetoed, Senate was unable to override veto
CONFERENCE:PASSED:SENATE	
VETOED:OVERRIDE_FAIL_SECOND:SENATE	
FAIL:SECOND:SENATE	
VETOED:OVERRIDE_FAIL_SECOND:HOUSE	
FAIL:SECOND:HOUSE	
VETOED:OVERRIDE_PASS_OVER:HOUSE	
ENACTED:TENDAYRULE	Bill became law 10 days after President neither signed nor vetoed.

Data and Version Notes

This data was generated on 2024-10-25. For detailed version history, please see the [version.pdf](#) file. This dataset is considered stable, meaning that future updates should not generally affect existing data. Updates add new bills and update bill statuses.

Reporting Data Issues

Our team has invested an enormous amount of effort to ensure that the LobbyView data is of the highest possible quality. If you detect an error in our data, we would love to hear from you. Please contact lobbydata@gmail.com and include as much information as possible so we can understand the error you are reporting.

Connecting LobbyView Data

The below diagram provides a quick guide explaining how to connect each LobbyView data download to each other, and to external datasets.

Connecting LobbyView Data

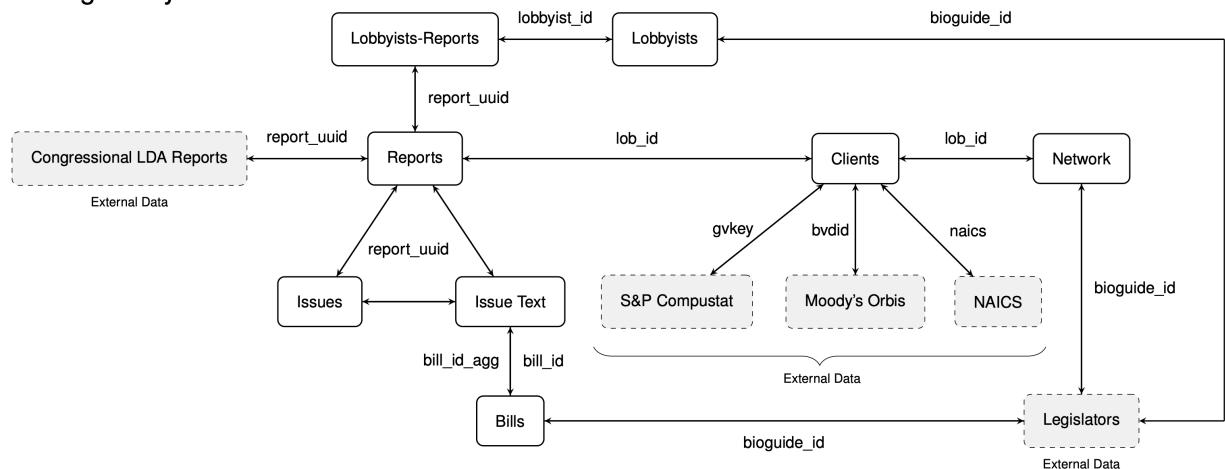


Figure 1: Connection Diagram