

Assignment 2: Session Laws & Codes Assignment

This exercise will provide practice in:

1. Using various tools for finding relevant code sections
2. Navigating within the code's hierarchy
3. Identifying and tracing session law elements into the code
4. Tracing a code section back to its constituent session laws

You may use any resource we have discussed in class or that you are familiar with to answer the questions in this assignment. Any time a question asks which resource or tool you would use to locate information, indicate the specific database you would use. **Don't** answer Lexis, Westlaw, USCA, or USCS or some other sufficiently vague answer that can't be wrong but isn't right either! Provide specific answers to the questions.

1. You have been asked to research the provisions of the Consumer Credit Protection Act that deal with consumer credit cost disclosure.

A. With this information, in which resource would you begin your research?

B. What is the public law number and Statutes at Large cite for this law?

C. Which title and section in the public law includes definitions related to the disclosure of consumer credit cost information?

D. Subsection (a) of the definition section states that the definitions found in this section are applicable to a specific unit of the public law. What is that unit?

E. You need to trace this language to the code to locate the latest law applicable to the disclosure of the cost of consumer credit. Which tool can be used to identify where this section of the public law has been codified in the United States Code (USC)?

F. Using this tool, which title and section of the USC contains the same language (definitions) you identified in the session laws?

2. Locate the section of the USC identified in 1.F. above. Use U.S.C.A. to answer the following questions.

A. Subsection (a) states that the definitions in this section are applicable to this “subchapter.” To which subchapter is this referring?

B. To which code sections do the definitions apply? How did you determine your answer to this question?

C. What is the number and name of the chapter in which this subchapter is located?

D. The public law says these definitions apply to one unit while the code changes the language and says they apply to another unit. Why this change and who made this change?

3. Examine the definitions section you are working with in the USC to answer the following questions.

A. Examine the credits for this section. What was the last public law to amend this section?

B. Which topic and key number could you use to locate additional cases?

C. Assume that your client’s issue involves what is known as an “open end credit plan.” Peruse the provisions of this code section to determine whether “open end credit plan” is defined. If so, where in the code section?

4. You are researching 16 U.S.C.S § 1274(a)(6) using Lexis. Several times the subsection mentions “this Act” with a reference to 16 U.S.C.S. §§ 1271 et seq. To what does the phrase “this Act” refer? Don’t answer with 16 U.S.C.S. §§ 1271 et seq. Give me details.

5. The phrase “this Act” does not appear in U.S.C. and U.S.C.A.; instead, they say “this chapter.” Why the difference?

6. You have been asked to identify where Title IV, related to environmental issues, is codified in the U.S.C. Identify which public law is involved and where it is codified in the code. Also, identify whether the public law or the code title is positive law in this situation. Describe how you arrived at your answers to this question.