

Important U.S. Legislation

1789 to 1821 – Critical/Founding Period

1789: Judiciary Act of 1789
1791: First Bank of the United States
1791: Whiskey Act
1793: Judiciary Act of 1793
1798: Alien and Sedition Acts
1806: Cumberland Road
1807: Embargo Act of 1807
1809: Non-Intercourse Act
1810: Macon's Bill Number 2
1816: Second Bank of the United States
1820: Missouri Compromise

1821 to 1841 – Jackson Era

1828: Tariff of Abominations
1830: Indian Removal Act
1832: Tariff of 1832
1833: Compromise Tariff (Tariff of 1833)
1833: Force Bill

1850 to 1871 – Civil War & Reconstruction

1850: Compromise of 1850
1850: Fugitive Slave Act
1854: Kansas-Nebraska Act
1862: Homestead Act
1862: Pacific Railway Act
1862: Morrill Land Grant Colleges Act
1863: National Banking Act
1863: Habeas Corpus Suspension Act
1865: Freedman's Bureau
1866: Civil Rights Act of 1866
1867: Tenure of Office Act
1867-1868: Reconstruction Acts
1871: Ku Klux Klan Act
(Civil Rights Act of 1871)

1871 to 1901 – Gilded Age

1872: Yellowstone Act
1878: Bland-Allison Act (Silver Purchase)
1882: Chinese Exclusion Act
1883: Pendleton Act (Civil Service)
1887: Interstate Commerce Act
1887: Hatch Act of 1887
1890: Sherman Antitrust Act
1890: Sherman Silver Purchase Act
1890: McKinley Tariff
1894: Wilson-Gorman Tariff Act
1900: Foraker Act (Puerto Rico)

1901 to 1921 – Progressives and WW1

1902: Newlands Reclamation Act
1902: Isthmian Canal Act (Panama Canal)
1903: Elkins Act
1906: American Antiquities Act (National Monument Act)
1906: Hepburn Act
1906: Pure Food and Drug Act
1906: Meat Inspection Act
1909: Payne-Aldrich Tariff Act
1910: Mann-Elkins Act
1910: Mann Act
1913: Revenue Act of 1913(including Underwood Tariff)
1913: Federal Reserve Act
1914: Federal Trade Commission Act
1914: Clayton Antitrust Act
1916: Keating-Owen Child Labor Act/1916
1916: Adamson Act
1917: Selective Service Act of 1917
1917: Espionage Act of 1917
1918: Sedition Act of 1918
1919: National Prohibition Act
(Volstead Act)

1921 to 1931 – Twenties

1922: Fordney-McCumber tariff
1924: Immigration Act of 1924
1930: Hawley-Smoot Tariff

1931 to 1941 – Great Depression & New Deal

1932: Reconstruction Finance Corp. Act
1932: Federal Home Loan Bank Act
1933: Emergency Banking Relief Act
1933: Civilian Conservation Corps Act
1933: Federal Emergency Relief Act
1933: Agricultural Adjustment Act
1933: Tennessee Valley Authority Act
1933: Home Owners' Loan Corporation
1933: Glass-Steagall (Banking Act 1933)
1933: National Industrial Recovery Act
1933: Farm Credit Administration
1934: Tydings-McDuffie Act
(Philippine Independence Act)
1934: Securities Exchange Act
1934: National Housing Act
1935: Soil Conservation Act
1935: Nat. Labor Relations (Wagner) Act
1935: Social Security Act
1935: Neutrality Act of 1935
1936: Neutrality Act of 1936
1936: Rural Electrification Act
1937: Neutrality Acts of 1937
1938: Fair Labor Standards Act
1939: Neutrality Act/1939 (Cash & Carry)
1940: Selective Training Service Act/1940

1941 to 1951 – WW2 & Early Cold War

1941: Lend Lease Act
1945: Bretton Woods Agreements Act
1947: Assistance to Greece & Turkey Act (Truman Doctrine)
1947: Taft-Hartley Act
1947: National Security Act of 1947
1948: Foreign Assistance Act (Marshall Plan)
1950: McCarran Internal Security Act

1951 to 1961 – Cold War & Civil Rights

1956: Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956
1957: Civil Rights Act of 1957
1958: National Aeronautics and Space Act
1958: National Defense Education Act

1961 to 1971 – New Frontier & Great Society

1961: Peace Corps Act of 1961
1961: Community Health Services and Facilities Act
1962: Manpower Development Training Act
1964: Civil Rights Act of 1964
1964: Economic Opportunity Act of 1964
1965: Elementary/Secondary Education Act
1965: Voting Rights Act
1965: Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965
1965: Highway Beautification Act
1965: Higher Education Act
1970: Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA)
1970: Clean Air Act Extension

1971 to 2001 – Modern U.S.

1972: Title IX Amendment of the Higher Education Act
1973: War Powers Resolution
1977: Clean Water Act
1986: Immigration Reform & Control Act
1993: Family and Medical Leave Act
1993: North American Free Trade Agreement