Readex has created the definitive digital edition of the “U.S. Congressional Serial Set”—the Reports, Documents and Journals of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. This incomparable collection of primary material is a rich source for research on all aspects of American history, politics, law and culture.

Only the Readex Serial Set offers a complete and expertly indexed digital edition of the more than 14,000 volumes in this national treasure, enabling students and scholars to easily explore its more than 370,000 publications.

Now complete, the U.S. Congressional Serial Set, 1817-1994 contains fully searchable digital facsimiles of more than 11 million pages, including statistical tables, thousands of illustrations and 74,495 maps. Readex has recently completed a similarly definitive edition of the American State Papers, 1789-1838, a complementary collection of essential U.S. legislative and executive documents, and House and Senate Journals, 1789-1817.

With our indexers and editors examining every “Serial Set” volume, Readex has taken unprecedented care in all areas of this major publishing project, for example:

- filmed in high-resolution color every page from the printed volumes housed at the Dartmouth College Baker-Berry Library and every color map from the Library of Congress
- created all-new and accurate indexing—based on nationally recognized thesauri and authority files from the Library of Congress and others—for systematic and consistent subject terms, hundreds of thousands of personal names beyond those that appear in titles, full and correct Congressional Committee names and bill numbers (even in the many cases in which the number is not given in the printed publication)
- prepared superior bibliographic records, featuring comprehensive bibliographic metadata
- added publications missing from other editions of the “Serial Set.”

Additional materials not available from Dartmouth are being provided by the Library of the U.S. Senate, Middlebury College, Newark Public Library, University of Vermont and the Vermont State Library.

To ensure the best search results possible for both legislative and historical research, Readex has created an acclaimed interface for the Serial Set that provides:

- unique browse capabilities, enabling users to obtain results without typing a word, phrase or subject term
- highlighted text in the digital page facsimiles that matches the terms of a full-text search
- clear indicators in the full citation record’s table of contents that pinpoint the location of full-text search terms
- active links for terms in the bibliographic records—personal names, committee names, executive agencies, geographic names, subject terms and others—enabling researchers to retrieve quickly all other publications indexed with the same terms
- a fully integrated subject thesaurus, map-level indexing and OpenURLs (or persistent links) for every publication.

In addition, Readex has worked in partnership with the Stanford University Library to create Dublin Core records for every publication in the Readex U.S. Congressional Serial Set, 1817-1994.