

Acts and other Legal Information Online

A useful site that includes Acts, Regulations and Case Law is:

Austlii - Australasian Legal Information Institute www.austlii.edu.au

To find an Act or Regulation by its title using Austlii

1. Go to the homepage using the web address above.
2. From the column on the left headed Cases and Legislation select **Commonwealth** (if looking for Federal Acts) or **Victoria** (if looking for State Acts)

The following shows you how to find a Commonwealth Act. The same steps can be used to find State Acts.

3. Scroll down until you see the heading Cth Legislation
4. Under this heading select Commonwealth Consolidated Acts
5. If you know the name of the Act click on the first letter of the Act name
6. When the list of titles are displayed, click on the Act name

You can use the numbered hypertext links to navigate your way around the Act or Regulation

You can also **search** within the Act using **Search this Act** from the menu. Type in keywords to describe your subject.

Austlii allows you to search its different databases with either the simple Search function on the homepage or the Advanced Search option, allows you to search within different sections ie. Acts, Regulations, Bills, Cases, Courts etc.

1. Type in some keywords that describe the subject eg. Parental leave
2. From the Find menu to the left select 'this phrase'
3. Select a database to search eg. Commonwealth: All Legislation

To find particular words in the Index or text of the Act, you can use your browser's Edit → Find (on This Page) function. This will highlight the next occurrence of your search terms.

To print: If you are viewing a section of an Act, click on print and click on your browser's print icon. Another option is to download the Act to make it ready to print. Note that the information contained on this website is subject is copyright. Please read Austlii's Copyright Policy – click on the link to **Copyright Usage** on the homepage or **Copyright Policy** at the bottom of most pages.

To download: Click on download. Files can be downloaded in two formats – Rich text or Plain Text. Note the sections for each that explain the differences. Further information is provided by clicking on the link to [download instructions](#). Once an Act is downloaded, click on File, then Print Preview to view the number of pages that will be printed. Click on Print, then Pages and enter the number of the page to be printed, or a range of pages eg. 3-6.

Victorian Legislation and Parliamentary Documents Home Page

www.legislation.vic.gov.au

This site includes Victorian Acts, Regulations, Bills, Hansard and Parliamentary papers. From the homepage:

1. Select [Victorian Law Today](#) and select either Acts or Statutory Rules (Regulations)
2. Click on the first letter of the Act name
3. An alphabetical list of Acts will display
4. Click on the title of the Act

Click on either the Acrobat Reader or Microsoft Word symbols to open the Act.

If reading the Acrobat file it will open with pages shown on the left-hand side which will help with navigating within the document. To find particular words in the text, click on the Search symbol (binoculars) on the left and type these in the text box. The results list will show where the word/s are highlighted within the text.

Alternative

Search by either Acts or Statutory Rules by entering keywords in the search box eg. health and services. Use the Boolean **AND** between your keywords to ensure they all appear as the Boolean **OR** is the default operator.

Select the appropriate Act/Statutory Rule from the search results.

To find Bills being considered by the Parliament of Victoria, Hansard or Parliamentary papers, click on Parliamentary Documents.

To find Acts or Statutory Rules passed in a particular year, click on Victorian Statute Book.

To print:

Use Print preview to find the section you wish to print and click on your browser's print icon. Click on Print, then Pages and enter the number of the page to be printed or a range of pages eg. 3-6. Click on Print.

Note that the information contained on this website is subject to copyright. Click on the link to Copyright for further information.

Other websites

- **Australian Government Attorney-General's Department** www.ag.gov.au
Provides access to Commonwealth legislation and other information on the Australian legal system
- **Law Handbook online** <http://lawhandbook.org.au>
Practical guide to the law in Victoria.
- **Findlaw** www.findlaw.com.au
FindLaw is a free legal information service containing information for legal professionals, students, business people, and members of the public. Provides search functions, full text of recent cases and legislation and information on business law.