WHERE CAN I FIND THE FULL TEXT, MOST RECENT VERSION OF A SPECIFIC PIECE OF LEGISLATION?

Online:
- TimeBase LawOne: database providing full-text access to legislation from all Australian jurisdictions.
- Practitioner tools like CCH IntelliConnect are mini-libraries on a legal topic, used as quick reference sources by legal practitioners; some include the full-text of relevant legislation.

WHERE CAN I FIND THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OR THE HISTORICAL VERSION OF AN ACT?

Online:
- Use the above list of online resources. The legislative history of statutes and other legislation (i.e. commencement dates, amending instruments etc.), is provided, usually within a Table of Acts. The history of amendments, listed by section number, will be within a second table usually entitled Table of Amendments.
- Historical versions of acts (reprint PDFs) may be available on official websites e.g. NSW Legislation, Federal Register of Legislation etc.

WHERE CAN I SEARCH LEGISLATION ACROSS MULTIPLE AUSTRALIAN JURISDICTIONS?
- TimeBase LawOne
- AustLII

WHERE DO I FIND PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ON A TOPIC, MINISTERS’ SPEECHES, BILLS, EMS ETC?
- Parliamentary websites provide legislative materials for their own jurisdictions, from approx. 1990 onward (back-files vary). Use these sites to find Hansard (parliamentary debate), Bills, Explanatory Memoranda and other useful parliamentary information such as committee reports, inquiries & Bills Digests (neutral analysis).
- NSW Hansard is available online dating back to its beginning.

WHERE CAN I FIND CASE LAW JUDICALLY CONSIDERING MY LEGISLATION?

Australian case law:
- CaseBase (Lexis Advance Pacific)
- FirstPoint (Westlaw AU)
- TimeBase LawOne Cases feature Other jurisdictions:
- JustisOne
- ICLR Online
- Westlaw

WHERE CAN I FIND JOURNAL ARTICLES THAT DISCUSS MY LEGISLATION?
- Informit Law for Australian articles on Australian legal issues, cases or Acts.
- Various databases contain articles discussing the legal issues of other countries, international matters and Australian law from an overseas perspective e.g. HeinOnline, Index to Legal Periodicals & Books Full Text, Lexis Advance US Research (access via Lexis Advance Pacific), Westlaw, ProQuest, Oxford Journals, Oxford Reports on International Law, Sage Journals Online.

HOW DO I KNOW IF THE WEB-BASED RESOURCE I’VE FOUND IS RELIABLE?

1. Does it match your information requirements? New sources of information may require you to review your original information needs, perhaps you were searching for the wrong terms or your topic was too broad. Sometimes laws will have undergone major changes, pay attention to the age and jurisdiction of legal material.
2. Determine the worthiness of the information; there is no scholarly control over what is on the web. NB: Wikipedia is not an authoritative legal source! (do not use material from any WIKI or BLOG sites)

FIVE POINTS TO CONSIDER WHEN EVALUATING A WEB-BASED RESOURCE ARE:
- Accuracy - Can you verify the factual information provided? Is the researcher’s methodology stated?
- Authenticity - What are the author(s) credentials? Has the information been published in an academic form?
- Objectivity - Are the arguments presented fairly? Does the author have ulterior motives or express opinions?
- Coverage - Is adequate detail provided? Is the information too basic, too complex or irrelevant?
- Currency - How recently was the page updated? Is the data current? (AustLII legislation tends to be out-of-date)

HOW DO I CITE MY SOURCES IN A LAW RELATED ESSAY?

Check your course outline for reference to the citation style you are required to use. School of Law students must reference ideas, quotes, or material using AGLC4.
Select Referencing in the navigation bar in the Legislation guide for additional information.