

FOREWORD

The *Congressional Directory* is one of the oldest working handbooks within the United States Government. While there were unofficial directories for Congress in one form or another beginning with the 1st Congress in 1789, the *Congressional Directory* published in 1847 for the 30th Congress is considered by scholars and historians to be the first official edition because it was the first to be ordered and paid for by Congress. With the addition of biographical sketches of legislators in 1867, the *Congressional Directory* attained its modern format.

The *Congressional Directory* is published by the United States Congress in partnership with the Government Publishing Office, at the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing under the authority of Title 44, Section 721 of the U.S. Code.

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The 2015–2016 *Congressional Directory* was compiled by the Government Publishing Office, under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing by:

Project Manager.—Margaret V. Ross-Smith.

Editors: Michael Bush; Natoshka Faxio-Douglas; Regina G. Mitchell.

Typographer.—Michael E. Colbert.

Proofreader/Editor.—Rowena F. Dagang.

State District Maps.—Election Data Services, Inc.

Representatives' Zip Codes.—House Office of Mailing Services/U.S. Postal Service.

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Publishing Office
Internet: bookstore.gpo.gov; Phone: toll free (866) 512–1800; DC area (202) 512–1800
Fax: (202) 512–2250; Mail: Stop SSOP, Washington, DC 20402–0001

Paper Cover ISBN–978–0–16–092997–7

Casebound ISBN–978–0–16–092996–0