

**The United States
Government Manual
1999/2000**

**Office of the Federal Register
National Archives and Records Administration**

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Raymond A. Mosley,
Director of the Federal Register.

John W. Carlin,
Archivist of the United States.

On the Cover: A montage of images depicting American urban and rural life; inventions, industry, and immigration; nuclear testing and space exploration; wartime scenes and peace demonstrators; inventors and civil rights leaders; and Presidents and their families. These photographs are among those included in "Picturing the Century: One Hundred Years of Photography from the National Archives." This free exhibit, on display in the Circular Gallery of the National Archives Building in Washington, DC, presents nearly 200 photographs selected from the National Archives and Records Administration's vast holdings. Most of the photographs were taken by Federal Government employees or contractors or were collected by a Federal agency; some were taken by distinguished photographers, while others are uncredited. They depict momentous events, capture the hopes and fears of the American people, and illustrate the transformation of American society during the 20th century. "Picturing the Century" is on display through July 4, 2001.

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Preface

As the official handbook of the Federal Government, *The United States Government Manual* provides comprehensive information on the agencies of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches. The *Manual* also includes information on quasi-official agencies; international organizations in which the United States participates; and boards, commissions, and committees.

A typical agency description includes a list of principal officials, a summary statement of the agency's purpose and role in the Federal Government, a brief history of the agency, including its legislative or executive authority, a description of its programs and activities, and a "Sources of Information" section. This last section provides information on consumer activities, contracts and grants, employment, publications, and many other areas of public interest.

The 1999/2000 *Manual* was prepared by the Presidential and Legislative Publications Unit, Office of the Federal Register. Maxine L. Hill was Lead Editor, and Karen L. Ashlin was Managing Editor, assisted by Anna Glover, Michael Hoover, Jennifer Mangum, and Karen Thornton.

THE FEDERAL REGISTER AND ITS SPECIAL EDITIONS

The *Manual* is published as a special edition of the *Federal Register* (see 1 CFR 9.1). Its focus is on programs and activities. Persons interested in detailed organizational structure, the regulatory documents of an agency, or Presidential documents should refer to the *Federal Register* or one of its other special editions, described below.

Issued each Federal working day, the *Federal Register* provides a uniform system for publishing Presidential documents, regulatory documents with general applicability and legal effect, proposed rules, notices, and documents required to be published by statute.

The *Code of Federal Regulations* is an annual codification of the general and permanent rules published in the *Federal Register*. The *Code* is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to Federal regulation. The *Code* is kept up to date by the individual issues of the *Federal Register*.

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A companion publication to the *Weekly Compilation* is the *Public Papers of the Presidents*, which contains public Presidential documents and speeches in convenient book form. Volumes of the *Public Papers* have been published for every President since Herbert Hoover, with the exception of Franklin D. Roosevelt, whose papers were published privately.

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The Office of the Federal Register publishes slip laws, which are pamphlet prints of each public and private law enacted by Congress. Slip laws are compiled annually as the *United States Statutes at Large*. The *Statutes* volumes contain all public and private laws and concurrent resolutions enacted during a session of Congress;

recommendations for executive, legislative, and judicial salaries; reorganization plans; proposed and ratified amendments to the Constitution; and Presidential proclamations. Included with many of these documents are sidenotes, U.S. Code and statutes citations, and a summary of their legislative histories.

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