**Statutes: Updating**

It is crucial to know whether the text of the law you are relying on is current. There are various ways of doing this depending on the type of resource you are using.

If you are using an online platform such as Westlaw, check for flags that indicate pending legislation. Review the proposed changes to see if they will affect the legal issues you are interested in.

If you are using printed volumes, be sure to check the supplement. The supplement is a separate publication that contains changes made since the main printed volume was bound. In many code volumes, the supplement will be a “pocket part,” which is a pamphlet tucked inside the back cover. For some volumes, the supplement may be a separate book entirely, usually a paperback shelved next to the main volume. When using a supplement, check under the same citation as the main volume.

A final source to check is the Advance Legislative Service volumes at the end of the code. These volumes contain the new laws that have not yet been codified. Advance legislative services are organized chronologically, in the order that the laws were passed.

Lastly, regardless of the source of your information, note the date of the document you are reading. A print supplement will have the date on the cover or title page. A document in a database will have the date it is current through at either the top or the bottom. Databases will almost always be more current than print versions.