

Iowa submission from Karen Wallace, Drake Law Library, and Mandy Easter, State Law Library of Iowa

With regard to each resource, the site reports answers to the following questions:

- Whether the online resource is designated as official documents and in what form official documents are published.
- Whether the online resource is authenticated.
- Whether a policy exists to preserve the online resource.
- Whether the state has enacted legislation guaranteeing permanent public access to the online resource.
- Whether the online resource is copyrighted who owns copyright.

The site also reports answers to the following questions:

- Whether the state has adopted universal citation.
- Whether the state has adopted the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA).

In Iowa, the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) publishes the official versions of the acts, code, administrative code and bulletins, and court rules (Iowa Code § 2A.1(2)(d)). These can be either print or electronic (Iowa Code § 2A.5). The LSA also has the authority to determine how these sources should be cited (Iowa Code § 2B.17). The Iowa Supreme Court has designated West's North Western Reporter, starting with vol. 158, the official reporter of Iowa appellate decisions (Iowa R. Civ. P. 21.22(4)). In case of any discrepancies, "the latest version of the opinion on file in the clerk's office is the controlling opinion" (Iowa R. Civ. P. 21.29).

#### **Official Status**

The General Assembly's PDF versions of the Code, Acts, Administrative Code and Administrative Bulletin are designated official.

#### **Authentication**

Materials on the General Assembly website are not authenticated.

#### **Preservation**

Older versions are maintained on the website:

- Code to 1839.
- Acts to 1838.
- Administrative code to 1998.
- Administrative bulletin to 9/24/1997.
- Court rules to Feb. 2002.

→ It is not clear if an official policy is in place that requires this preservation.

*See email from Richard Johnson, following*

**Permanent Public Access**

Iowa has not passed legislation that guarantees permanent public access for these legal materials.

**Copyright**

Laws, regulations, court rules, and court opinions are not copyrighted.

**Universal Citation**

Iowa has not adopted universal citation.

**UELMA**

Iowa has not adopted UELMA.

**Subject: Richard Johnson's Response**  
**From:** Mandy Easter  
**Date:** 12/07/15 12:32 PM  
**To:** Karen.wallace@drake.edu

Hi, Karen. Richard Johnson passed along your document to Stephanie Hoff and her comments are in the e-mail trail below. Please let me know what else I can do to facilitate our response to AALL. Thanks much.

Mandy

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Mandy Easter, Law Librarian  
Iowa Library Services/State Library - Law Library  
State Capitol Building, Room 200  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
515-281-4434  
800-248-4483  
mandy.easter@lib.state.ia.us

--- the forwarded message follows ---

**Subject: FW: Request to proof a brief document**  
**From:** Johnson, Richard [LEGIS]  
**Date:** 12/07/15 11:51 AM  
**To:** Easter, Mandy [LIB]  
**Cc:** Hoff, Stephanie [LEGIS]

Mandy, Administrative Code Editor Stephanie Hoff's suggestion is contained below. Thanks for sending our way. Rich

**From:** Hoff, Stephanie [LEGIS]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 07, 2015 11:36 AM  
**To:** Johnson, Richard [LEGIS]  
**Subject:** RE: Request to proof a brief document

Hi Rich.



The dates under the heading "Preservation" are correct. However, the use of the preposition "to" is somewhat confusing.

Instead of "to," which, in our office, indicates the last item in a range, perhaps "beginning" or "from" could be used instead to indicate that a date is the starting point/beginning of the electronic archive of a publication. If so, the bullets could read as follows:

Administrative Code beginning (or, from) 1/14/98.

Administrative Bulletin (please capitalized the "b") beginning (or, from) 9/24/1997.

Court Rules (please capitalize the "c") beginning (or, from) February 2002.

Thanks for forwarding the dates for review.

(Note: The dates for the Administrative Bulletin will change when the older IABs are scanned and made available on the website. That project is high on my "do" list.)

Stephanie

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**From:** Johnson, Richard [LEGIS]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 03, 2015 4:19 PM  
**To:** Hoff, Stephanie [LEGIS]  
**Subject:** FW: Request to proof a brief document

Please access attached document and check out the description of available Bulletins, Administrative Codes, and Court Rules. Are the earliest dates of access correct? Rich

**From:** Mandy Easter [<mailto:mandy.easter@lib.state.ia.us>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 03, 2015 3:42 PM  
**To:** Johnson, Richard [LEGIS]  
**Subject:** Request to proof a brief document

Hi, Richard.

The American Association of Law Librarians has tasked Karen Wallace, an Associate Professor of Law Librarianship at Drake University's Law Library, and myself with updating Iowa's entry in its state-by-state guide to legal resources. Would you please look at the attached document, which is very brief, to confirm that we answered the association's questions accurately?

We really appreciate your time and trouble. Thank you so much. Please call me with any questions you might have. Have a nice evening!

Mandy

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Mandy Easter, Law Librarian  
Iowa Library Services/State Library - Law Library  
State Capitol Building, Room 200

**Subject: Preservation of online official publications**

**From:** Johnson, Richard [LEGIS]

**Date:** 02/14/16 06:00 PM

**To:** Easter, Mandy [LIB]

Mandy,

The legislative council has the authority under Code section 2.42(13) to establish policies with regard to publishing printed and electronic versions of legal publications as provided in chapters 2A and 2B, including the Iowa Acts, Iowa Code, Iowa administrative bulletin, Iowa administrative code, and Iowa court rules, or any part of those publications.

Code sections 2B.5A, 2B.5B, 2B.10, and 2B.12 require the legislative services agency to control and maintain in a secure electronic repository custodial information used to produce the Iowa administrative bulletin, Iowa administrative code, Iowa court rules, Iowa Acts, and Iowa Code.

Code sections 2B.5A, 2B.5B, 2B.10, and 2B.12 either require that electronic versions of the Iowa administrative bulletin, Iowa administrative code, Iowa court rules, Iowa Acts, and Iowa Code be provided or refer to such electronic versions.

Code section 2A.1 requires the legislative services agency to publish the official legal publications of the state, including but not limited to the Iowa Acts, Iowa Code, Iowa administrative bulletin, Iowa administrative code, and Iowa court rules as provided in Code chapter 2B. The legislative services agency is also required to designate a legal publication described in Code chapter 2B as an official legal publication.

Those statutes together would seem to me to require the legislative services agency to preserve online official publications. Is this helpful?

Richard Johnson, Legal Services Division Director, Iowa Legislative Services Agency