Westlaw Australia

Researching Legislation



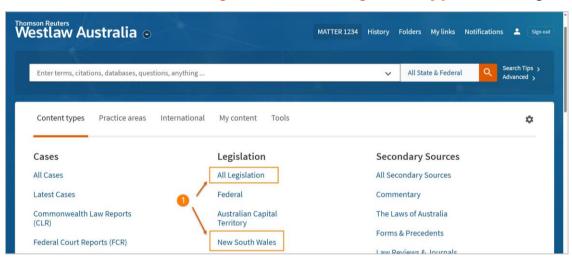
Researching Legislation

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- How to set up a Favourite link to a Frequently Used Act

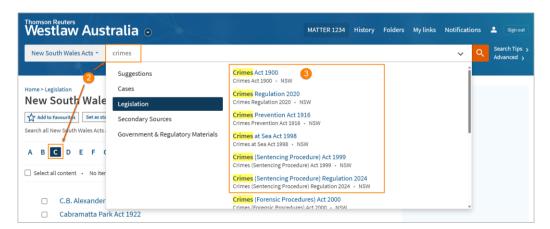
How to Browse Legislation (Current in Force Acts, Regulations and Rules)

Follow one of the two methods below:

1. Method 1 From home, choose All legislation or select legislation by jurisdiction e.g. NSW.



- 2. This will display a list of all legislation, in alphabetical order. Browse the titles or search across these Acts by typing in a keyword e.g. **Crimes** into the global search bar.
- 3. A list of the legislation containing **Crimes** will appear in the prediction box. Click on **More** to display more legislation titles. Select the title of the legislation (in blue) to open the table of contents of the Act.





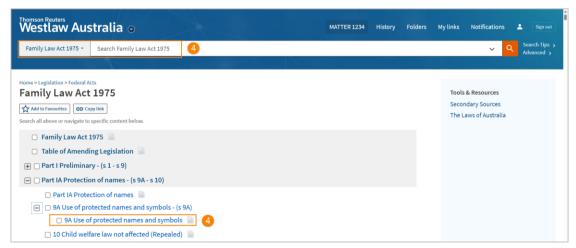
 Method 2: Browse method. Choose All legislation or select legislation by jurisdiction e.g. Federal, and Acts or Legislative Instruments (e.g. Rule or a Regulation). The same options apply to all state / territory jurisdictions.



- 2. To find the **Family Law Act 1975**, select **Federal Acts** then click on the letter **F** from the top of the page, to display a list of the Acts starting with the letter **F**:
- 3. To view the table of provisions of an Act, click on the name of the Act e.g. Family Law Act 1975.



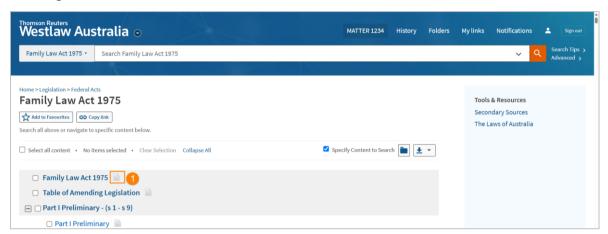
4. To search an Act, enter keyword/s into the Global Search bar at the top of the page. To browse the Act, simply scroll down the page to locate a provision. To view a provision, click the provision number and name in blue.



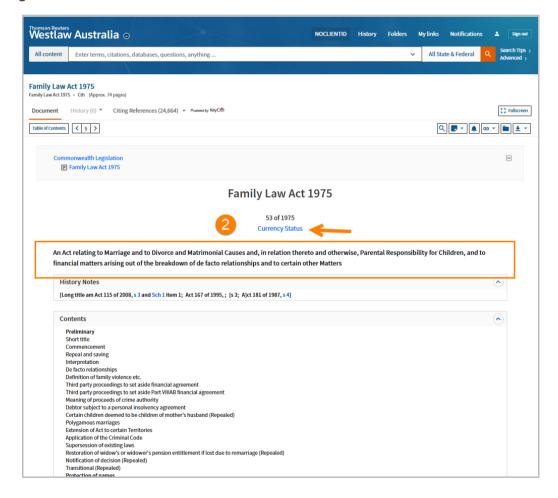


How to view the currency of a legislation

1. In the Global Search bar, type the legislation title, then click on the legislative suggestion to go to the legislation text in the legislation collection. Click on the document icon next to the title of the legislation.



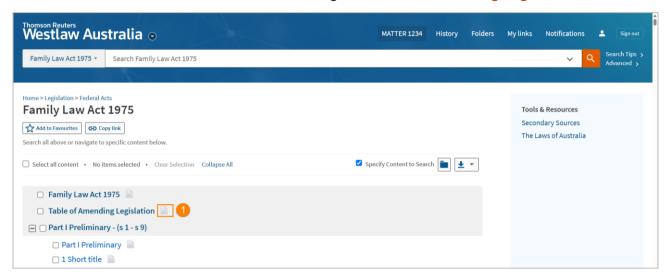
2. The legislation in full text appears. To check on the currency of the legislation, click on the Currency Status link below the title. A summary of the Act is located underneath the Currency Status. Currency Status explains what and when the last amendment was made and lists any pending future amendments.



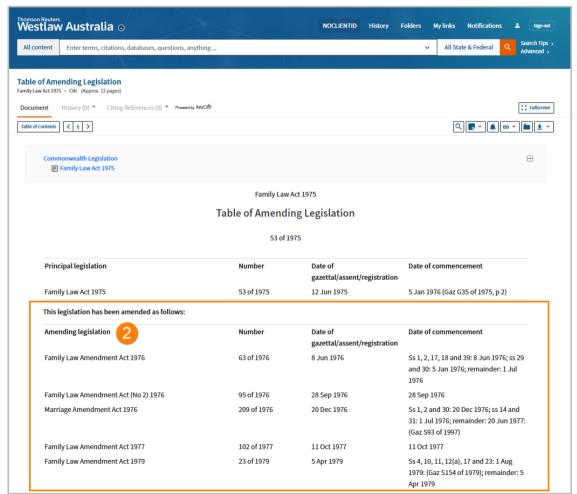


How to find amending legislation

1. To view the history of amendments made to the legislation, follow the steps from Q1 and click on the **Table of Contents** link or button, and go to **Table of Amending Legislation**.



2. You will find a list of all amending legislation dating back to the start of the Act / Regulation. We can see amendments made to the Act from 1976 (after the Family Law Act was assented and commenced in 1975). The list of amending legislation is shown in chronological order.





How to look for a section (clause or provision) in legislation

- 1. In the Global Search bar, type in the clause, section or provision number and the legislation title. You do not need to enter s, p or cl (section, provision, or clause).
- 2. Click on the legislative suggestion to go to the legislation text in the legislation collection.



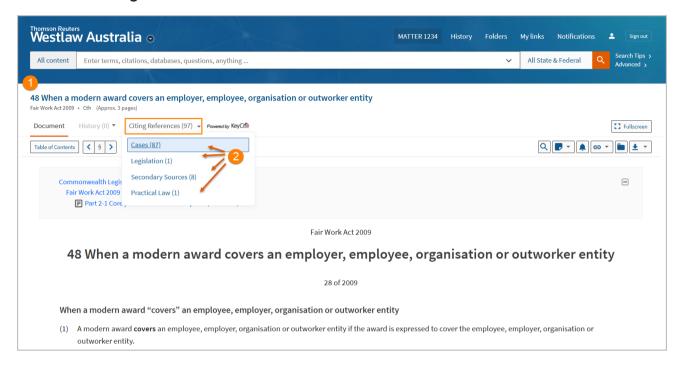
3. Search the Australian Consumer Law. Use the same process, but search using **Competition and Consumer Act 2010 24** and choose the document with the clause.



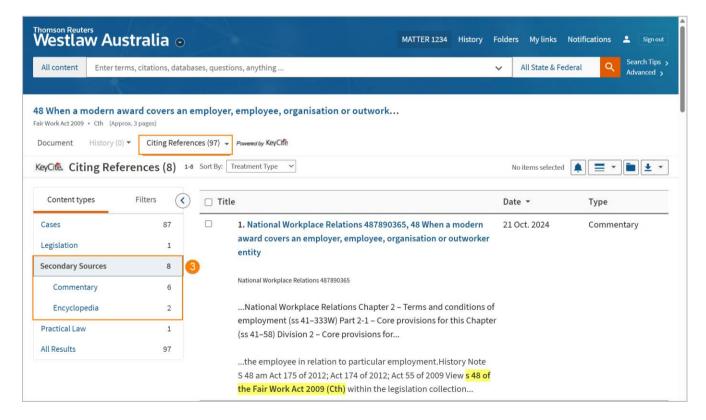


Find citing references to a particular section of legislation

- 1. In the Global Search bar type the legislation title followed by the provision number. E.g., 48 Fair Work Act 2009. Click on the legislative suggestion to go to the legislation text in the collection.
- 2. Click on Citing References tab to view a list of resources that cite the Provision.

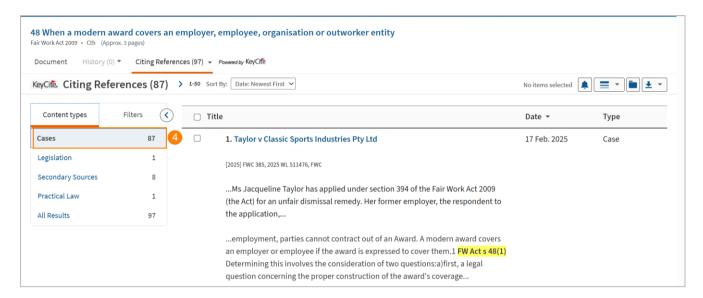


3. Filter by Secondary Sources to display relevant Commentary.

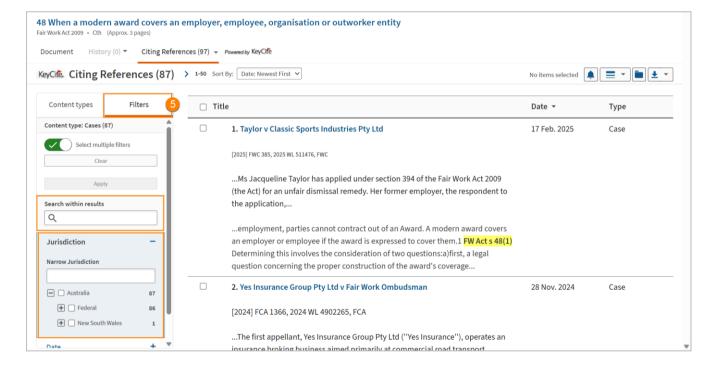




4. Filter citing references by Cases to view list of cases that have cited the provision.



5. Click on Filters to Search the case results by entering keyword(s) into the **Search within** results field or to filter the case results **Date** or by **Jurisdiction**.



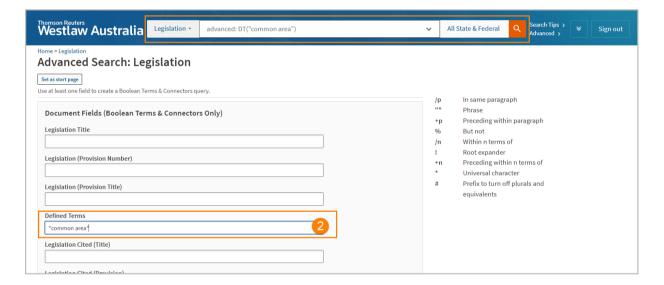


Find Defined Terms in Legislation

1. On the Home page – select **All Legislation** and then click the **Advanced** link to the right of the search bar.

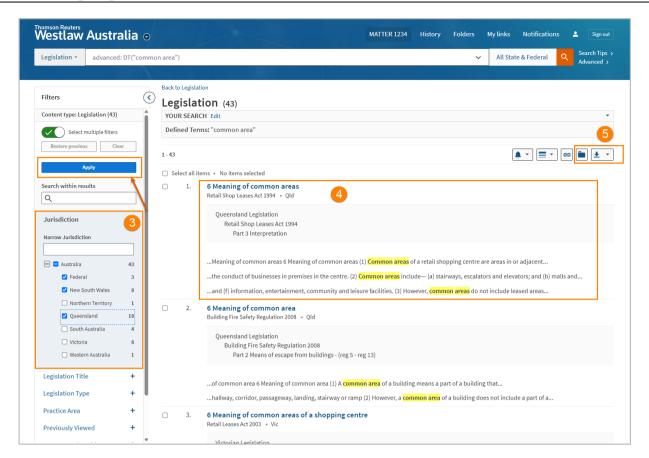


2. You can quickly find defined terms in any legislation using the Legislation Advanced search template. Scroll down to the Define Terms field and type in your search terms. If you are looking for a phrase, use quotation marks to search for the phrase not the individual words. E.g. "Common area". Go the top of the page and click on the Search button next to the Global Search.



- 3. To find how a word or phrase is defined by jurisdiction, choose the **Jurisdiction** filter on the left of the results. Click + to expand and select the applicable **Jurisdiction** and click the **Apply** button.
- **4.** The results show how the search term is defined from several different legislation titles. Click on the search terms to locate this reference in the legislation.
- 5. To email, save or print, use the **download** icon on the top right of the page and select from the options provided.





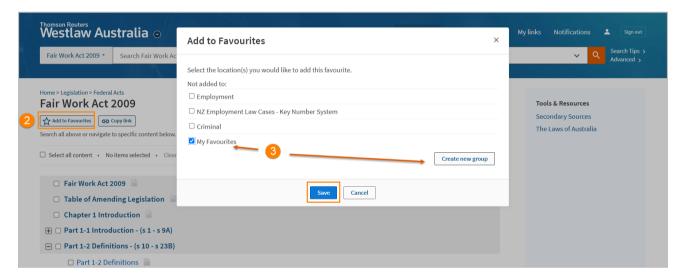


How to set up a Favourite link to a Frequently Used Act

1. In the global search bar type the legislation title and click on the legislative suggestion to go to the legislation text in the legislation collection.



- 2. Click the Add to Favourites button.
- 3. Choose an existing group (location) to Add to Favourites, or Create a group, enter the name of the group, and click Save.



- **4.** To return to your Favorites links, select **My links** from the top menu, then **View all favourites** and select legislation title under the relevant group.
- 5. To remove the Favourites link, click **Manage page** and select the legislation title you wish to remove, and click on the **Bin** icon to delete, then **confirm**.
- 6. Click Done.







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