

Package ‘uscongress’

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Type Package

Title Fetch United States Congressional Records (1995-Present)

Version 1.0.2

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Description Fetch United States Congressional Records from their API <<https://api.govinfo.gov/docs/>> such as congressional speeches, speaker names, and metadata about congressional sessions, and detailed gran-
ule records.
Optional parameters allow users to specify congressional sessions,
and the maximum number of speeches to retrieve. Data is parsed, cleaned, and
returned in a structured dataframe for analysis.

License GPL-3

Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

Imports httr, dplyr, stringr, rvest, tibble

Suggests testthat, knitr, rmarkdown

NeedsCompilation no

Repository CRAN

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get_congressional_records

Retrieve and Process Congressional Record Speeches

Description

Queries the Congressional Record collection for a given session and date range, retrieves speech text and associated metadata from granules, and processes the information into a structured tibble. Supports limiting the number of speeches collected.

Usage

```
get_congressional_records(
  API_KEY,
  max_results = NULL,
  date_from = NULL,
  date_to = NULL,
  congress_session = 117
)
```

Arguments

API_KEY	Character string. Your API key for accessing the govinfo API.
max_results	Integer (optional). Maximum number of speeches to retrieve. If 'NULL', retrieves all available speeches.
date_from	Character string (optional). Start date (YYYY-MM-DD) for filtering records. If 'NULL', determined by session.
date_to	Character string (optional). End date (YYYY-MM-DD) for filtering records. If 'NULL', determined by session.
congress_session	Integer. Congressional session number (default is 117).

Value

A tibble where each row corresponds to an extracted speech, including columns for URL, date, title, speaker, and speech text.

Examples

```
if (nzchar(Sys.getenv("GOVINFO_API_KEY"))) {
  # Retrieve your govinfo API key from environment
  api_key <- Sys.getenv("GOVINFO_API_KEY")

  # Retrieve Congressional Record speeches from the 117th Congress (2021-2023)
  speeches <- get_congressional_records(
    API_KEY = api_key,
    max_results = 5,
```

```
        congress_session = 117
    )
    head(speeches)
}
```

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