authorization, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. /ˈɔθərəˈɪzəʃən/, U.S. /ˈəθərəˈɪzəʃən/

Forms: lME auctorisation, 15– authorisation, 16– authorization.

Frequency (in current use):


Etymology: < AUTHORIZE v. + -ATION suffix.

Compare post-classical Latin auctorisatio, ...

1. The action of authorizing a person or thing; formal permission or approval; an instance of this. Also: the action of making legally valid.

1472–3  Rolls of Parl.: Edward IV (Electronic ed.) Parl. Oct. 1472 1st Roll §59. m. 2,  The actes by auctorite of parlement of auctorisation of the same lettres patentes..be..hooly and fully voided.

1567  T. Stapleton Counterblast iv. vii. f. 457,  God him selfe hath already geuen it [sc. spiritual jurisdiction] to the Apostles and their successours, Bishops and Priestes in his Churche, without any commission or authorisation for any prince of the earth whatsoeuer.

1610  J. Healey tr. St. Augustine City of God ii. viii. 63  Ordained..by the authorization [L. auctoritate] of the chiefe Priest.

1721  J. Wise Word of Comfort 9  They have..done every thing for us that has been needful in our Civil and Secular Affairs since their Authorization.

1762  Monthly Rev. Mar. 228  The authorization of Spain to this offensive transaction of France.

1827  J. Bentham Rationale Judicial Evid. V. ix. iv. v. 342  Authorization does away the fraud: what is authorized is legalized.

1835  J. Harris Great Teacher (1837) 133  A mere adoption and authorization of pre-existing opinions.

1856  C. Merivale Hist. Romans under Empire V. xlviii. 435  Without a special authorization from the chief.

1941  F. D. Roosevelt in Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin: Hearings (1942) I. 2,  I recommend authorization of construction of the St. Lawrence seaway and power project.

1976  Times 25 Sept. 3/4  The Nazis had stiff penalties..for anyone transferring money abroad without authorization.

2003  L. Uys & S. Cameron Home-based HIV/AIDS Care 193  All staff members and volunteers require written authorization from the CEO.

2. A document giving official permission.

1799  Message from President of U.S., accompanying Sundry Papers 96  Hereafter no letters of marque, authorizations or permissions to fit out vessels either for cruising, or for war and commerce, shall be
issued in the colonies of America.

1839 *St. James's Chron.* 1 Jan. ‘The Czar has granted leave to 30 young officers’...These are the expressions used in the authorisation, but persons well acquainted with the affairs of government [etc.].

1887 tr. A. Dumas *Lady with Camellias* vi. 44 We went to the Commissary of Police, and Armand handed him the authorisation from Marguerite's sister.

1904 G. Wilson-Rae & B. De Speluzzi tr. *Code of Commerce (Argentina)* i. iv. 30 The proprietor...should express in the authorisation the restrictions to which the factor should subject himself.

1968 H. S. Thompson *Let.* 9 Feb. in *Fear & Loathing in Amer.* (2000) 36 I'd only get involved in it if you sent me some sort of official or neo-legal authorization and agreed to repay me when you re-claim the car.

2010 M. Murphy & M. Waterfill *New Hipaa Guide 2010* 216 Signed authorizations must be retained for six years.

**3. U.S. Polit.** A legislative act which establishes the legal authority for the creation of a government agency, programme, etc., typically for a specified time and with recommended funding levels. Cf. *authorization bill* n. at Compounds 2.

1891 *N.Y. Times* 26 May The limits for the three vessels alone aggregate about $7,500,000, so that the vast difference between the authorizations of that House and those of the present House thus far is manifest.

1947 *Columbia Law Rev.* 47 419 The problem is to determine what limits are placed on the Committee's activities by the terms of its authorizations.

1961 *Amer. Jrnl. Econ. & Sociol.* 20 170 The effect of reauthorizations is generally the same as if new authorizations were used in their place.

2010 D. E. McNabb *Case Res. in Public Managam.* xi. 146 Hall examined how Congress uses short-term program authorizations to monitor and shape public policy.

**COMPOUNDS**

C1.

**authorization code** *n.*

1961 *Ordnance Corps Man.: Data Processing* (U.S. Army: ORDM 3-12) II. 832m, Block 178 checks the authorization code of the item record and the input for managerial code H.

2007 *Vanity Fair* Oct. 335/1 It is here that the president's on-duty military aide—the officer who carries the 'football', the briefcase containing authorization codes for launching nuclear weapons—sleeps during his 24-hour shift.

**authorization form** *n.*

1906 *Proc. 7th Ann. Convent. Amer. Railway Engin. & Maintenance of Way Assoc.* 325 No charge is made against any work that would be covered by this authorization form.
C2.

authorization bill  

₁₉₇₉  *Globe & Mail (Toronto)* (Nexis) 28 Feb.  Toronto schools have been unable to obtain medical information from school nurses. Beginning next month, the board will send authorization forms home with 90,000 elementary and secondary pupils for authorization.

₂₀₀₀  *Keyways* (Master Locksmiths' Assoc.) Feb. 19/2  The Association has an authorisation form and a procedure for the cutting of security keys that should ensure that reasonable precautions are taken.

Though a United States authorization bill may recommend the level of funding for an agency or programme, the actual amount is determined by a subsequent appropriation bill.

₁₈₂₄  *London Morning Post* 23 June  Lord George Cavendish...and a great number of Members, returned the Earl Marshal Authorization Bill.

₁₈₉₈  *Boston Daily Globe* 21 Apr. 6/1  The enlistment authorization bill was passed and sent to the senate.

₁₉₀₇  *Times* 27 Nov. 8  The obstructive Croatian debate upon the autonomous Hungarian tariff was resumed. This debate will be interrupted to-morrow, as the authorization Bill has been placed on the order of the day.

₁₉₂₇  *Science* 11 Feb. p. xiv/1  The bill just passed is an authorization bill and must be followed by the actual appropriation of funds.

₂₀₁₀  *N.Y. Times* (National ed.) 16 Sept. A3/1  The House version of the NASA authorization bill..provides only $150 million a year..for the private-sector space travel initiative.

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