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January 15, 2022

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
Chairperson
Committee on House Administration
1309 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rodney Davis
Ranking Member
Committee on House Administration
1216 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairperson Lofgren and Ranking Member Davis,

Pursuant to Section 502 of House Resolution 756 from the 116th Congress, I am submitting this quarterly report about the Comparative Print Project.

As the Committee is aware, staff in Legislative Computer Systems, along with contractors, continue to build a suite of software programs that will allow House staff and others to create on-demand, point-in-time comparative prints for three distinct types of comparisons.¹ These comparative prints illustrate changes between

- two versions of a bill, resolution, or amendment (document-to-document comparisons)
- current law and current law as proposed to be changed by amendments contained in a bill, resolution, or amendment to current law (both codified and non-codified law)
- a bill or resolution and the bill or resolution as proposed to be modified by amendments (amendment impact).

¹<https://cha.house.gov/sites/democrats.cha.house.gov/files/documents/Clerk%20Comparative%20Print%20Report.pdf>;
<https://cha.house.gov/sites/democrats.cha.house.gov/files/Clerk-QR1-StandardizedFormat.pdf>.

In our system, comparative print results are shown in two ways: an online, dynamic, interactive report and a PDF that can be printed or downloaded. Users access these results through a key feature, the Toolbox View.

Currently, more than 160 House Committee staff have access to the software. In the last quarter, a small group of staff from the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress and the Congressional Budget Office joined the pilot group. The group's feedback about the usability, desirability, learnability, and accuracy of the system continues to be positive and helpful.

Since the last report, the project team has been working on several operational tasks related to House-wide deployment, including moving the application to a cloud environment. To do this, my staff is working closely with our vendor and our internal partners in the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to ensure a stable and secure cloud infrastructure. When complete, this will pave the way for more robust, accelerated deliveries of products, features, and change requests.

As mentioned in previous reports, system features, such as Changes to Existing Law and the Inbox, will be made available to users only after they receive required training. Other features, such as Bill Viewer and Bill-to-Bill Differences, which are simpler and straightforward to use, will be made available to all House staff without training. The project team has been working with the CAO's Congressional Staff Academy to develop on-demand and instructor-led courses that we expect to launch during the first quarter of 2022.

The project team will continue working on tasks mentioned here as well as those in previous reports. We are looking forward to delivering the Comparative Print System House-wide pending the completion of the migration to the cloud and its required security audits.

As we have done in the past, we will continue to update the Committee and stakeholders about the project's progress. If you or others on the Committee have questions about this report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cheryl L. Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Clerk of the House