KEVIN F. McCumber Clerk

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December 15, 2025

The Honorable Bryan Steil Chairman Committee on House Administration 1309 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairman Steil and Ranking Member Morelle,

Pursuant to Section 505 of House Resolution 756 from the 116th Congress, I am submitting this quarterly report regarding the assignment of unique identifiers for reports filed by registered lobbyists.

Previously, we recommended the current Lobbying Disclosure System be redesigned and built anew.¹ A contemporary system will improve user experience, provide more efficient processing and automation, and allow for greater transparency. It will also enable the assignment of unique identifiers to individual lobbyists.

As described in previous communications, we share the current system with the Secretary of the Senate, though each office has a separate interface for receiving, processing, and making the filed registrations and reports public. Key components include:

- LD-1 (Registration): Used by individuals or lobbying firms and organizations employing lobbyists to register new lobbying activities.
- LD-2 (Quarterly Activity Report): Filed every calendar quarter, disclosing lobbying activities and expenses.
 - o LD-2 Amendments and Terminations can also be filed to update or end registrations.
- LD-203 (Semiannual Contribution Report): Filed by individual lobbyists to report political contributions and certain other activities.

Since our July 15, 2025, report, my staff in the Legislative Computer Systems and Legislative Resource Center divisions have continued to work with our Senate counterparts to formalize and launch a project to modernize the existing system.

Created in 2024, the Lobbying Disclosure Act Executive Decision Board continues to meet monthly to discuss system proposals and make key decisions. It assembled the project team, defined House and

¹ https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP24/20220406/114592/HHRG-117-AP24-Wstate-JohnsonC-20220406.pdf.

Senate roles and responsibilities, and outlined central features of the redesigned Lobbying Disclosure System. The Executive Decision Board decided that the new system will leverage the recently upgraded Senate platform and the Senate team will lead the modernization effort, with its House counterpart providing support and assistance as needed. With the project team in place, along with the outsourced contractors, the modernization work began in earnest in May of this year, and will continue with product discovery, requirements gathering, user experience design activities, and application development in the coming months. While this initial work is underway, the Executive Decision Board reached agreement to begin work on a unified congressional search website that will replace the separate House and Senate search tools, offering the public a single point for searching and viewing lobbying disclosure filings. Due to delays caused by the lapse in appropriations, this first deliverable is now expected to be deployed in the first quarter of 2026.

Regarding funds for this work, the Explanatory Statement accompanying H.R. 2617, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 (P.L. 117-328), provided my Office with \$1,400,000 from the Modernization Initiatives Account.² The Executive Decision Board has agreed to use a portion of these funds for research; development; and implementation of identity verification and improved account management. Last year, we contracted a software developer to build a proof of concept for identity verification and management, and in March, we contracted a user experience/user interface (UX/UI) designer to support that development. We contracted with ID.me in December 2024 to provide identity verification and identity management services. We will continue to use the appropriated funds to further augment staff capacity to assist with the development of the new system.

Unless otherwise directed, we will submit our next report about this project on or before July 17, 2026. If you or others on the Committee have questions about this report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kevin F. McCumber Clerk of the House

cc: The Honorable David Valadao, Chairman, Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee The Honorable Adriano Espaillat, Ranking Member, Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee

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 $^{^2\} https://www.congress.gov/117/crec/2022/12/20/168/198/CREC-2022-12-20-pt2-PgS8553-2.pdf.$