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H-154 THE CAPITOL

Office of the Clerk
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6601

July 15, 2021

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,

As required by Section 505 of House Resolution 756 from the 116th Congress, agreed to by the House on March 10, 2020, I am submitting this quarterly report about the assignment of unique identifiers for reports filed by registered lobbyists.

In our initial and first quarterly reports, we discussed the challenges of reconciling the names already in the Lobbying Disclosure system and identified two potential solutions for assigning unique identifiers to existing and future registered lobbyists.¹ My Legislative Computer Systems (LCS) staff continue to do research and preliminary work on both solutions. During the last quarter, they compiled initial analysis that focuses on the effort it would take to completely redesign and overhaul the system. As well, they are working on indexing first and last names, linking those names to lobbyists' accounts, and building a list of names that will require manual review. Because of other priorities, about which your Committee is aware, the amount of time we can spend on these activities is not as much as we desire or is required for this work.

¹<https://cha.house.gov/sites/democrats.cha.house.gov/files/documents/Assignment%20of%20Unique%20Identifiers%20for%20Reports%20Filed%20by%20Registered%20Lobbyists.pdf> and <https://cha.house.gov/sites/democrats.cha.house.gov/files/Clerk-QR1-LobbyistID.pdf>.

My staff and I are aware of the language included in the FY22 Legislative Branch report, officially posted on June 29, 2021, that directs me to brief the Appropriations Committee no later than September 26, 2021, on these efforts.² As I have stated in previous reports, we continue to have questions about the scope and desired project outcomes and need to review and discuss these with your Committee, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Senate. I, along with staff in LCS, will reach out to schedule meetings about this matter.

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", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Clerk of the House

² <https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20210629/112879/HMKP-117-AP00-20210629-SD003.pdf>