

# The Congressional Data Task Force

Public Meeting

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

# The Congressional Data Task Force

The Task Force is a partnership of representatives from various Legislative Branch Agencies including the—

- House of Representatives,
- Senate,
- Library of Congress,
- Government Publishing Office,
- Government Accounting Office

that work in a cooperative manner to coordinate and accomplish openness and transparency goals.

# The Congressional Data Task Force

- The Bulk Data Task Force was created in 2012 to focus on increased dissemination of congressional information via bulk data
- *current work goes beyond bulk data*
  - meets internally with Legislative Branch organizations to coordinate projects and other transparency and modernization initiatives
  - meets with civil society organizations

*The name changed to the Congressional Data Task Force on June 21, 2022*

# Legislative Branch Innovation Hub



<https://usgpo.github.io/innovation/>



# AGENDA

1. Welcome, Background, and Announcements
2. Reports/Updates from civil society organizations
3. Reports/Updates from LOC, GPO, Clerk, Secretary
4. Time for Discussion/Questions and Answers
5. Announcements/Closing

*Meeting ends at 4:00 pm EST*

# Housekeeping Items



*The meeting will be recorded and posted online at <https://usgpo.github.io/innovation/>*



*Use the Q&A feature to ask questions. The panelists will respond during the meeting.*



*Use the “raise hand” feature during the Q&A portion so we can unmute your mic.*



*Make sure the name displayed is you. Using the chat, please share a little about yourself. Suggestions: your name, where you work, and expectations for this meeting.*



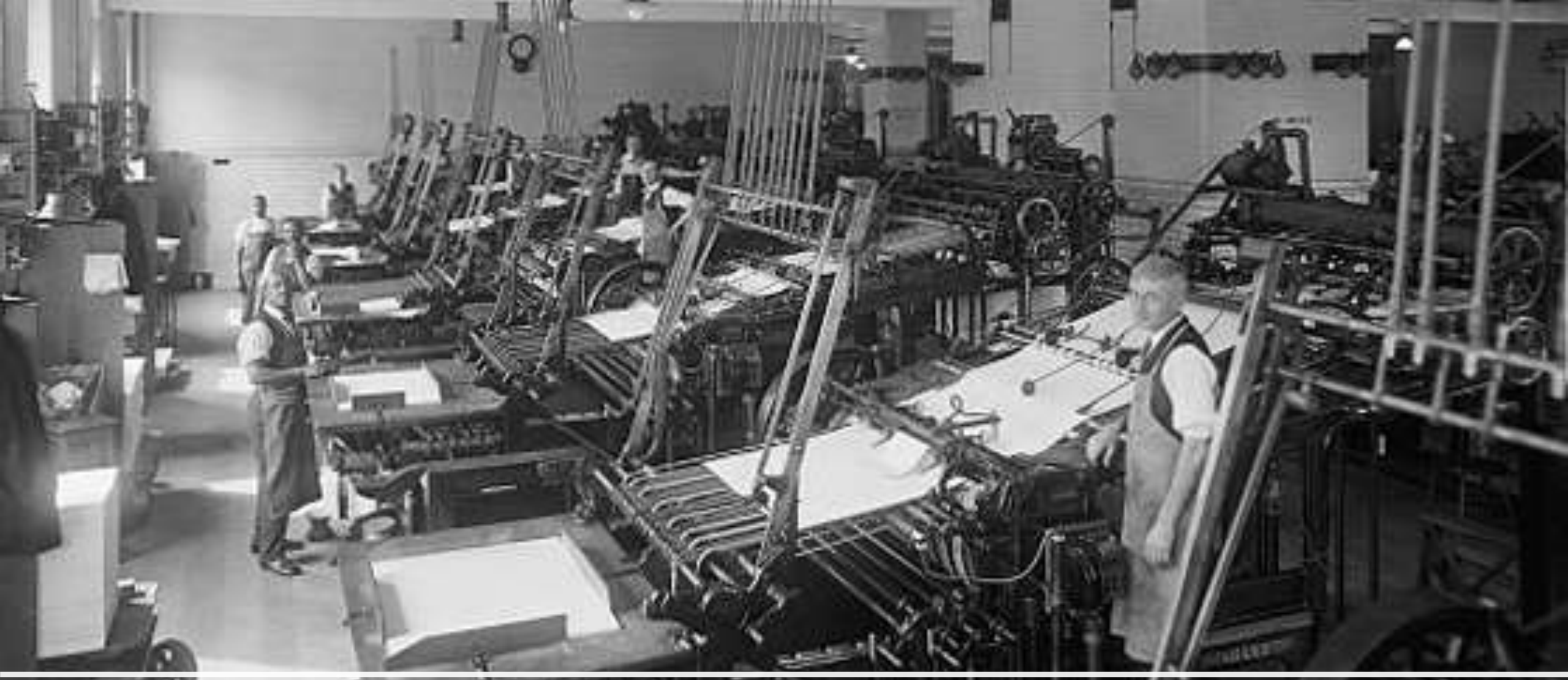
*Meeting will start at ~2:02 pm and end at 4:00 pm EST*

# The Congressional Data Task Force

The Task Force is a partnership of representatives from various Legislative Branch Agencies including the—

- **House of Representatives,**
- **Senate,**
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**PREPARE**





**MANAGE**





**DISTRIBUTE**



**ARCHIVE/PRESERVE**



110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

## H. R. 3712

To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1716 Spielbusch Avenue in Toledo, Ohio, as the “James M. & Thomas W.L. Ashley Customs Building and United States Courthouse”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 1, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

### A BILL

To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1716 Spielbusch Avenue in Toledo, Ohio, as the “James M. & Thomas W.L. Ashley Customs Building and United States Courthouse”.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. JAMES M. & THOMAS W.L. ASHLEY CUSTOMS  
BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURT-  
HOUSE.**

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1716 Spielbusch Avenue in Toledo, Ohio, shall be known as the “James M. & Thomas

2

W.L. Ashley Customs Building and United States Courthouse”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building and United States courthouse referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “James M. & Thomas W.L. Ashley Customs Building and United States Courthouse”.

○

The paper  
version is the  
official document  
of record.



**Adding a digital layer to a  
centuries-old paper process**

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88TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7152

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 1964

Ordered printed as passed the House

## AN ACT

To enforce the constitutional right to vote, to confer jurisdiction upon the district courts of the United States to provide injunctive relief against discrimination in public accommodations, to authorize the Attorney General to institute suits to protect constitutional rights in public facilities and public education, to extend the Commission on Civil Rights, to prevent discrimination in federally assisted programs, to establish a Commission on Equal Employment Opportunity, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*

2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 That this Act may be cited as "The Civil Rights Act of

Online means more  
than just the  
electronic  
representation of  
the paper document

# The Solution

## Structured Data

Formats: XML, JSON, HTML...

*GPO Developer Hub at [GovInfo.gov/developers](http://GovInfo.gov/developers)*

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The three characteristics that documents share:

- **Presentation:** how the content looks
- **Structure:** how the content is organized
- **Semantics:** what does it mean



# The Solution: XML USLM schema

## Legislative Branch Innovation Hub

[About the Hub](#)[Leadership Support](#)[Data Standardization](#)[Reports](#)[Events](#)[Resources](#)

### Reports

#### Standardized Formats for Legislative Documents, USLM

- **Initial Report** - Required by Section 501 of House Resolution 756 of the 116th Congress - [PDF](#)
- Quarterly Report 1 - October 15, 2020 - [PDF](#)
- Quarterly Report 2 - January 15, 2021 - [PDF](#)
- Quarterly Report 3 - April 15, 2021 - [PDF](#)
- Quarterly Report 4 - July 15, 2021 - [PDF](#)
- Quarterly Report 5 - October 15, 2021 - [PDF](#)
- Quarterly Report 6 - January 15, 2022 - [PDF](#)
- Quarterly Report 7 - April 15, 2022 - [PDF](#)

[//usgpo.github.io/innovation/reports/](https://usgpo.github.io/innovation/reports/)

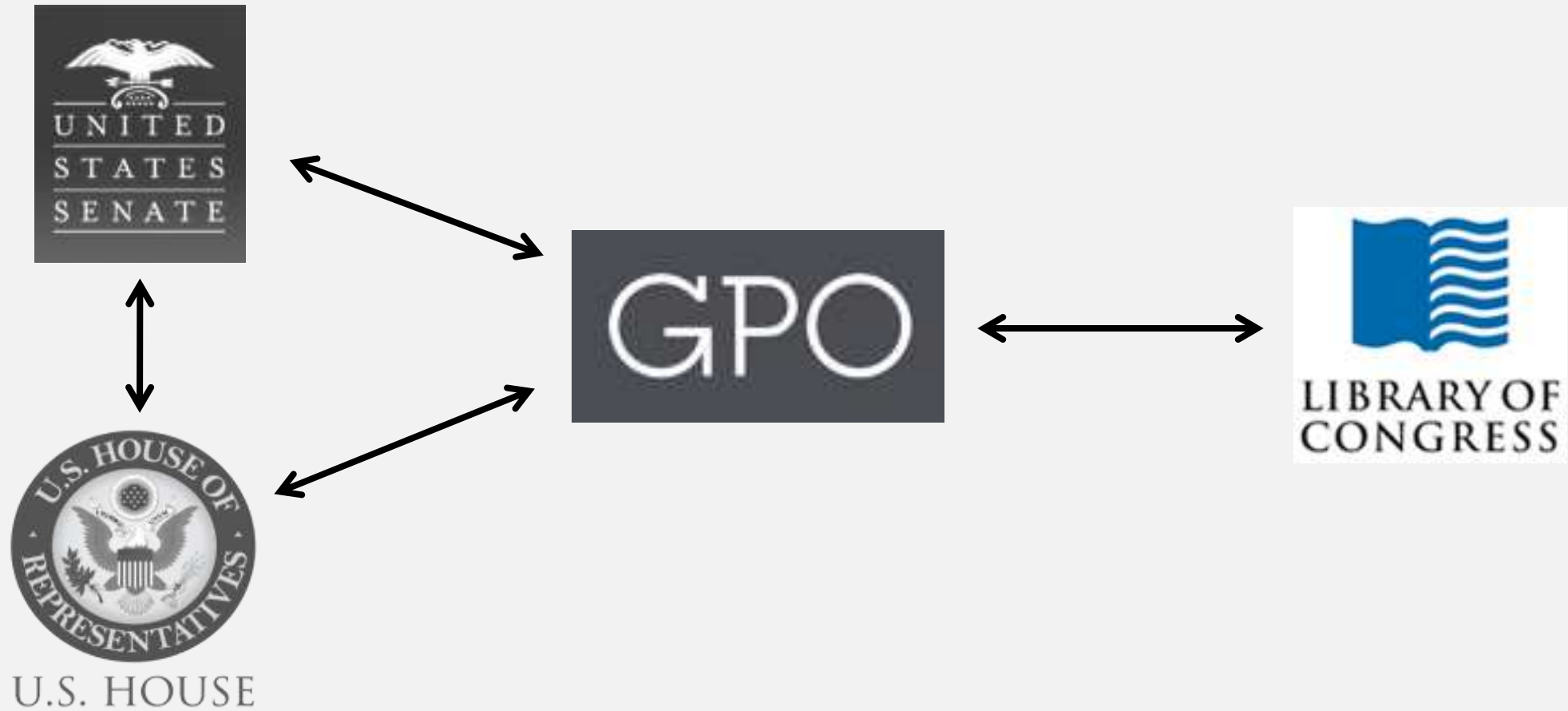


# The Solution: JSON HTML

*Exciting news coming later in the meeting  
from Robert Brammer with the Library of Congress*

*Matt Landgraf with the Government Publishing Office  
will share about responsive HTML*

# Data Exchange: Simple



More comprehensive workflows can be found on the Innovation Hub:  
<https://usgpo.github.io/innovation/resources/>



**Adding a digital layer to a  
centuries-old paper process**

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# Large bills and the ecosystem

## H.R. 133, Consolidated Appropriations, FY 2021

- Engrossed Amendment in House (EAH): 5,432 pages
- Enrollment (ENR): 2,124 pages

## H.R. 8352 116<sup>th</sup>

- Introduced House (IH) : 4,435 pages

## H.R. 6395, NDAA, FY 2021

- Engrossed House (EH): 3,470 pages

## H.R. 3684, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (117<sup>th</sup>)

- Engrossed House (EH): 1,934 pages
- Enrollment (ENR) : 1,039 pages

*H. R. 133 ENR on its way to the Senate (signature); 12/24/2020*

*Photo courtesy of the staff in Legislative Operations, Office of the Clerk*



...since the  
last meeting

- 4/6/2022: Congressional Hackathon 4.0, April 6, 2022 -- The 4th Official Bipartisan Hackathon in the U.S. Capitol --*Hosted by Leaders Hoyer and McCarthy*
- 4/28/2022: Committee on Modernization of Congress hearing on modernization the legislative process
- Last week—
  - Internapalooza
  - District Caseworker training

# The Congressional Data Task Force

Name Change



As the Bulk Data Task Force continues its work to increase transparency, identify efficiencies and modernize data in the legislative branch, its name should reflect its current mission and activities. The Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress recommended changing the Task Force name to the Congressional Data Task Force.<sup>2</sup> The Committee on House Administration agrees with this recommendation, and hereby directs the Office of the Clerk to change the Task Force name to the Congressional Data Task Force.

## Name change

Excerpt: letter from Committee on House  
Administration date June 16, 2022

As the Committee's recommendation to change the name of the Task Force to the Congressional Data Task Force states, this ongoing collaboration has been positive for our office, other legislative branch organizations, legislative stakeholders, and data transparency groups, ultimately leading to technological advances in how legislative data are made public. My staff and I fully support the name change. The proposed name change accurately captures the current work and mission of the Bulk Data Task Force.

## Name change

Excerpt: testimony by Clerk Cheryl Johnson  
before the Committee on the Modernization of  
Congress, Jan '22



# Name change

47. Make permanent the Bulk Data Task Force and rename it the Congressional Data Task Force.

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress

\*Page 35, item #47 of the final report for the 116th Congress  
<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/GPO-CRPT-116hrpt562/pdf/GPO-CRPT-116hrpt562.pdf>

# Next on the Agenda

Yuri Beckelman, Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress

# Next on the Agenda

*civil society organizations, public  
interest advocates and others*



- Daniel Schuman, Congressional Data Coalition, Demand Progress (8 minutes)
- Lars Erik Schönander, Lincoln Network (8 minutes)
- Carl Malamud, Public Resource Organization (8 minutes)

*time for discussion*

# Q&A/Discussion



*Use the “raise hand” feature so we can unmute your mic.*



*Use the Q&A feature to ask questions. The panelists will respond during the meeting.*



*Make sure the name displayed is you.*

# Next on the Agenda

## *Legislative Branch organizations*

- Library of Congress – Abby Weiss and Robert Brammer (18 minutes)
- Government Publishing Office – Lisa LaPlant and Matt Landgraf (15 minutes)
- Senate Secretary's Office – Arin Shapiro (5 minutes)
- House Clerk's Office – Veneice Smith (10 minutes)

*time for discussion*



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centuries-old paper process**

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The physical hopper

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 Login

# Welcome to the eHopper

Developed by the Office of the Clerk, the eHopper allows House staff to submit select legislative documents electronically. Staff may submit legislation for introduction, additional cosponsors to legislation, and related matter as required by House Rules, practice, and procedure.



## The eHopper is open.

The eHopper is open and accepting submissions. The eHopper will close 15 minutes after adjournment.



# Welcome to the eHopper


Developed by the Office of the Clerk, the eHopper allows House staff to submit select legislative documents electronically. Staff may submit legislation for introduction, additional cosponsors to legislation, and related matter as required by House Rules, practice, and procedure.



## The eHopper is closed.

The eHopper is closed and not accepting submissions at this time. The eHopper will reopen 15 minutes before the next session. The House will next meet at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 18, 2022.



 **Introduce a Bill**

 Add Cosponsors

 PAYGO Statement

 Earmark Statement

## Introduce a Bill or Resolution on behalf of Rep. Ch

Cancel

Step 1 of 5

### **Submit Bill Text**

Name of Bill or Resolution 

Enter name of bill or resolution

Text of Bill or Resolution 



Upload Text of Bill or Resolution

Browse

## Introduce a Bill

Add Cosponsors

PAYGO Statement

Earmark Statement

## Introduce a Bill or Resolution on behalf of Rep. C [REDACTED]

Save

Cancel

Step 5 of 5

- Submit Bill Text
- Attach Constitutional Authority Statement (required for H.R. and H.J.Res.)
- Attach Add a Cosponsor Form(s) (optional)
- Attach Staff Authorization Form (if needed)
- Submission Summary**

## Your Responses

Name of Bill or Resolution

Do something good Act

Measure Type

H.R.

Are there any original cosponsors for the legislation?

No

Has the Member signed all documents?

No

I have confirmed the Staff Authorization Form includes the Member's signature, my name, and the date of submission.

Yes

## Attachments

Text of Bill or Resolution



TEST TEST TEST.pdf



Constitutional Authority Statement (required for H.R. and H.J.Res.)



CAS\_Intro\_S1.pdf



Staff Authorization Form



SAF.pdf



Previous

Proceed



# Which one would you use?

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# Upcoming Product Releases

**CLERK**  | UNITED STATES HOUSE  
of REPRESENTATIVES



 COMPARATIVE  
PRINT SUITE

 LIMS

# Other items

- Committee tools
  - RFIs
    - Committee vote database
    - Common committee scheduling tool
- Lobby Disclosure system
- Member Information System (MIS)

# Congressional Redistricting

## Gain one

Five

- Colorado
- Florida
- Montana
- North Carolina
- Oregon

## Gain two

One

- Texas

## Stay the Same

37

## Lose one

Seven

- California
- Illinois
- Michigan
- New York
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- West Virginia

# AGENDA



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*Meeting ends at 4:00 pm EST*



## Resources

**<https://usgpo.github.io/innovation/>**



# Next Meeting

## Congressional Data Task Force

TBD for a date in Aug/Sept  
2:00 to 4:00 pm EST



# Thank you for attending!

Congressional Data Task Force – Public Meeting  
Thursday, June 21, 2022

# Thank you

**Kirsten Gullickson**

Office of the Clerk  
U.S. House of Representatives

[Kirsten.Gullickson@mail.house.gov](mailto:Kirsten.Gullickson@mail.house.gov)

For more information:  
[USGPO.GITHUB.IO/INNOVATION/](https://USGPO.GITHUB.IO/INNOVATION/)