

# 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

Public Meeting

Tuesday, December 13, 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 and Background
2. Change of Congress activities in the House and the Senate
3. Reports/Updates from civil society organizations
4. Reports/Updates from LOC, GPO, House, Senate
5. Time for Discussion/Questions and Answers
6. Announcements/Closing

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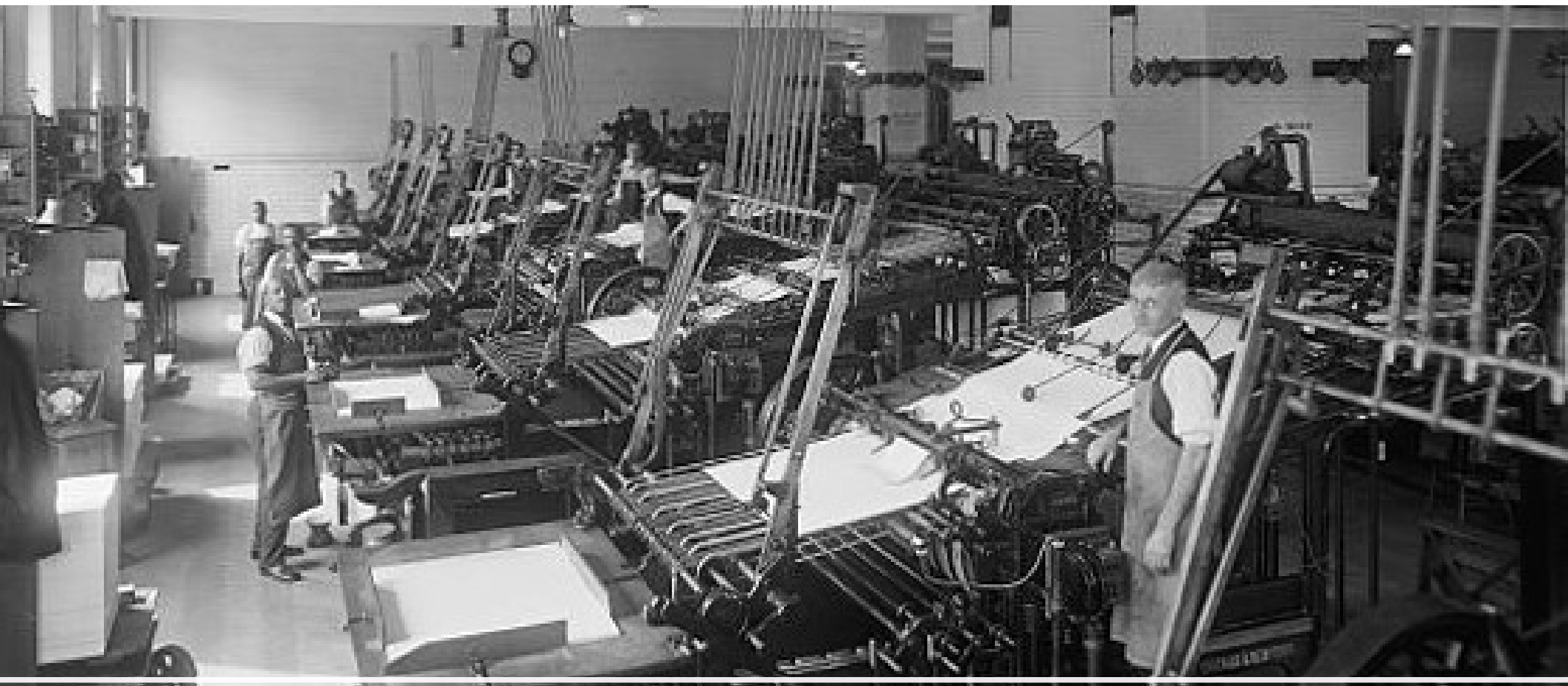
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**PREPARE**



**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

1 W.L. Ashley Customs Building and United States Court-  
2 house”.

3 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-  
4 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United  
5 States to the Federal building and United States court-  
6 house referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be  
7 a reference to the “James M. & Thomas W.L. Ashley Cus-  
8 toms 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





*Roadmap for Publishing Legislative Documents in USLM XML Format<sup>1</sup>*

Completed	U.S. Code
Completed	Enrolled bills, public laws, and the Statutes at Large
Completed	HOLC/SOLC statute compilations
IN PROGRESS <i>Initiated</i>	Remaining bill/resolution versions (introduced, reported, engrossed, all amendments, et. al.)
C	Committee Reports
D	House portions of the <i>Congressional Record</i> , including the <i>Daily Digest</i>
E	Hearing record
F	House Calendar
G	<i>Precedents of the U.S. House of Representatives</i>
H	<i>House Journal</i>

# 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

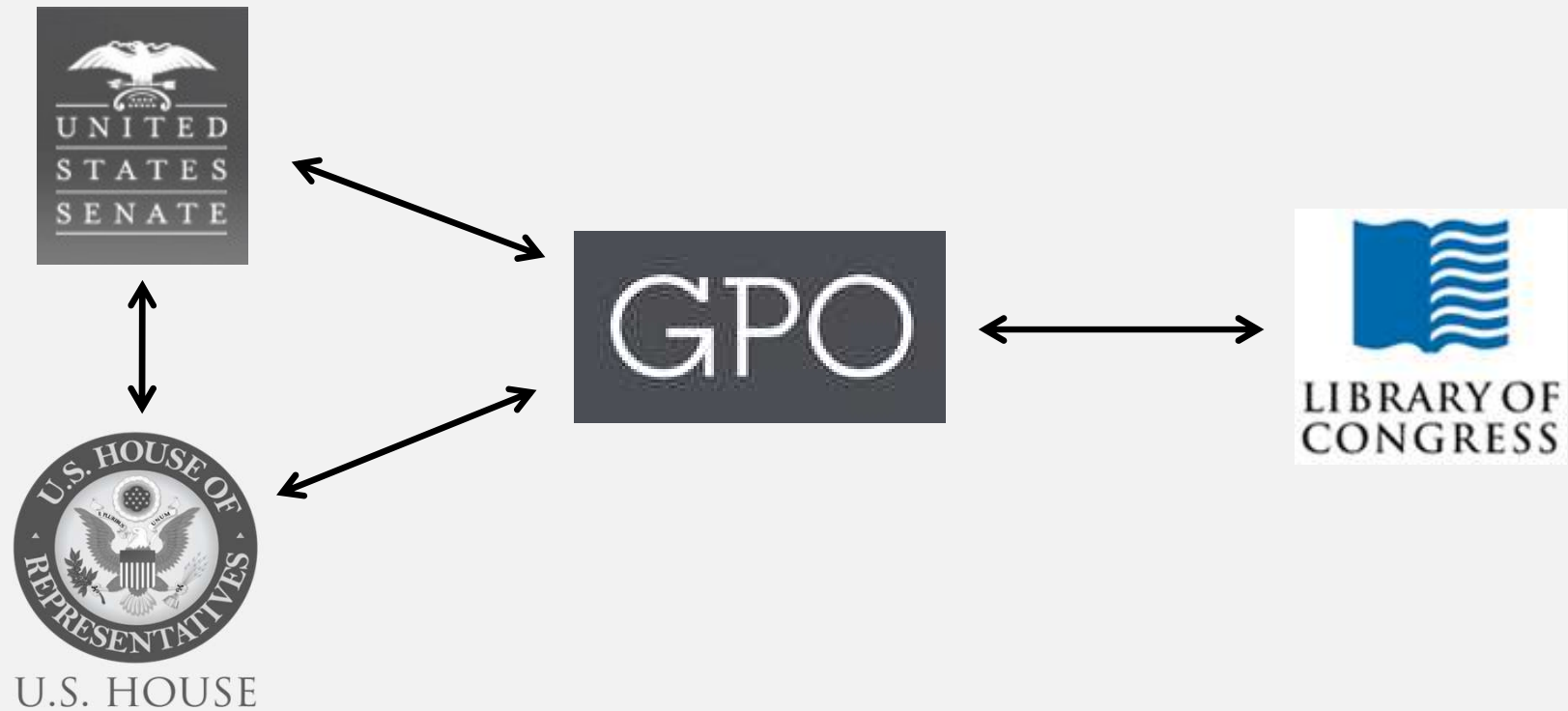
- **Initial Report** - Required by Section 501 of House Resolution 756 of the 116th Congress - [PDF](#)
- Quarterly Report 1 - October 15, 2020 - [PDF](#)
- Quarterly Report 2 - January 15, 2021 - [PDF](#)
- Quarterly Report 3 - April 15, 2021 - [PDF](#)
- Quarterly Report 4 - July 15, 2021 - [PDF](#)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

- Continued excitement about*
  - the release of the Congress.gov API*
- upcoming release of responsive HTML for bill text*
- Work being done regarding USLM and data modeling*

# Data Exchange: Simple



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



...since the last  
meeting

Next on the Agenda  
*Legislative Branch organizations*

Change of Congress Tasks in the House and the Senate

# 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

# 118<sup>th</sup> Congress Members-elect

## Representatives

- 222 Republicans
- 212 Democrats
- 67 returning Members have new district numbers
- 74 Members-elect serving for the first time.
- One (1) non-consecutive returning Member

## Delegates/Resident Commissioner

- 3 Republicans
- 3 Democrats
- *One election outstanding: recount in CO-03*
- *One vacancy due to the death of Rep. McEachin*



# Unique Identifiers

## Members

BioGuide IDs

— A000370

<https://bioguide.congress.gov/search/bio/A000370>

<https://clerk.house.gov/members/A000370>

## House Committees/Subcommittees

Historic four-digit code

— AG00

<https://clerk.house.gov/committees/AG00>

<https://clerk.house.gov/committees/AG14>

# Release of Data

- Members-elect data may be released later this month
- Official Member data will be released for the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress on opening day

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- For duplicate name and salutations such as Ms/Mrs, use
  - [https://clerk.house.gov/member\\_info/duplicate-names-117.pdf](https://clerk.house.gov/member_info/duplicate-names-117.pdf)
  - *Has a change log on the back page that is helpful throughout the Congress.*

Next on the Agenda  
*Legislative Branch organizations*

Change of Congress Tasks in the Senate

# Q&A/Discussion



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## Next on the Agenda

Reports/updates from civil society organizations and others

## Next on the Agenda

*Legislative Branch organizations*

### Reports from

- The House CAO's office
- The Senate Secretary's Office
- The Government Publishing Office
- The Library of Congress
- The House Clerk's Office

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Product  
Releases



COMPARATIVE  
PRINT SUITE



LIMS

CLERK  | UNITED STATES HOUSE  
of REPRESENTATIVES



# Comparative Print Suite

# Three types of comparisons



Document to document



Amendments contained in a legislative proposal to current law

Changes in existing law (Ramseyer/Cordon)



Amendments to legislative proposal

Committee amendments

Floor amendments

Changes to existing law

What do the Natural  
Language Processors  
need to do?

- Recognize
- Interpret
- Retrieve
- Execute

Section 704 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002

(6 U.S.C. 344) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “, including with respect to leader development and employee engagement,” after “policies”;

(ii) by striking “and in line” and inserting “, in line”; and

(iii) by inserting “and informed by best practices within the Federal government and the private sector,” after “priorities,”;

# Challenges: Finding provisions in Federal Law

No single unified code

Draft to several sources

- U.S. Code
- Statutes at Large
- Statute Compilations
- Other law (Revised Statutes of the United States, Uniform Code of Federal Evidence, Tariff Tables,...)

No single effective date; conditional effective dates



# TRUST

- Drafter: Improves QA/QC while drafting
- Member: Can visually see the current law
- The Public: provides transparency and further insight on the Rule of Law
- Machine Learning: Hand-crafted semantics for our domain



# The user notification system

If the changes to the existing law cannot be executed

- due to a drafting error,
  - an error in the current law dataset, or
  - an error in the solution itself (*unsupported instruction, something else*).
- It also alerts the user to when an amendment proposed in the bill has already been executed into current law.



Bill to bill differences



“(b) Chair; Membership.—The Administrator shall designate a representative to serve as the Chair of the advisory board. In addition to the Chair, the membership of the advisory board shall include ~~the Director of the Office of Personnel Management;~~—

“(1) the Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget;

“(2) the Director of the Office of Personnel Management;

“(3) the Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government of the Office of Management and Budget;

“(4) the Assistant to the President and Chief Technology Officer; and

“(5) other individuals as may be designated by the Administrator.



# Changes and Differences

Comparison variation one

“(b) Chair; Membership.—The Administrator shall designate a representative to serve as the Chair of the advisory board. In addition to the Chair, the membership of the advisory board shall include—

“(1) the Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget;

“(2) the Director of the Office of Personnel Management;

“(3) the Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government of the Office of Management and Budget;

“(4) the Assistant to the President and Chief Technology Officer; and

“(5) other individuals as may be designated by the Administrator.

# Changes and Differences

Comparison variation two

Demonstration

# Q&A/Discussion



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## Resources

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

Next  
Meeting

TBD: First quarter of 2023

# 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/)





# Thank you for attending!

Congressional Data Task Force – Public Meeting  
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