

LISA P. GRANT
DEPUTY CLERK

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

December 30, 2024

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

As the Committee is aware, the Comparative Print Suite (compare.house.gov) is a set of applications that enables House staff to produce comparative prints showing how proposed legislation may amend law and how a bill, resolution, or amendment changes from one version to another. My staff in Legislative Computer Systems (LCS), in partnership with the House Office of the Legislative Counsel (HOLC) and our contractors, lead the project team.

All House staff have access to the Basic Edition, which includes the Bill Viewer and Bill to Bill Differences tools and access to the upload feature to Bill to Bill Differences. Users must take an online, on-demand course available at the Chief Administrative Officer's (CAO's) Congressional Staff Academy to access the Advanced Edition, which includes two versions of the How a Bill Changes Current Law tool and access to the upload feature to generate comparative print reports.

Product Updates

Since our last report, the LCS product team and vendor

- Released an update in November that included improvements to the Natural Language Processors that drive the How a Bill Changes Current Law tool
- Upgraded production infrastructure and related components

The product team and vendor continue addressing change requests and developing improvements and will be conducting user engagement activities, such as user surveys to identify potential enhancements to the suite, in the 119th Congress.

Support and Training

To date, 417 House staff, including new users; pilot group users; and Law Revision Counsel, Clerk, and CAO staff, have access to the Advanced Edition. All 90 HOLC staff have been granted the Advanced Drafter role, a special role implemented in 2023 that designates them as early adopters of features before the Housewide release. Support calls continue to be minimal while feedback remains positive.

Legislative Branch Access

Earlier this year, we enabled Senate access to the suite. Since the last report, we have continued to support our Senate counterparts as they prepare to launch the Senate Comparative Print Suite pilot. This work includes a security review of the suite infrastructure. We have granted access to a group of pre-pilot Senate participants who are collaborating with the Office of the Senate Secretary to ensure a smooth launch.

As reported in the past, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) and the Library of Congress (LOC), including all Legislative Analysis Services staff from the Congressional Research Service (CRS), use an instance of the application managed and located in the vendor's cloud environment. This version mirrors the Clerk's production environment and follows its release and update schedule. In 2025 we plan to migrate both CBO and CRS users to the House's production environment at compare.house.gov.

Additionally, we are working with the LOC as it prepares to conduct a pilot of the Text Analysis Program (TAP) with a small number of House staff. TAP is a tool that enables users to find and compare measures with similar text. The TAP and the Comparative Print Suite teams are excited to showcase features in both tools that complement one another and can further aid Members and staff with their legislative drafting. Where possible, both teams are working behind the scenes to ensure minimal duplication of efforts.

Finally, unless otherwise directed, we will send the next report on or before July 15, 2025. If you or others on the Committee have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Kevin F. McCumber
Acting Clerk of the House

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