

TO DIRECT THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS TO PROMOTE THE MORE COST-EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT, AND EXPANDED AVAILABILITY OF THE ANNOTATED CONSTITUTION AND POCKET-PART SUPPLEMENTS BY REPLACING THE HARDBOUND VERSIONS WITH DIGITAL VERSIONS

AUGUST 16, 2024.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. STEIL, from the Committee on House Administration, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 7592]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on House Administration, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 7592) to direct the Librarian of Congress to promote the more cost-effective, efficient, and expanded availability of the Annotated Constitution and pocket-part supplements by replacing the hardbound versions with digital versions, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

CONTENTS

	Page
Purpose and Summary	2
Background and Need for Legislation	2
Committee Action	7
Committee Consideration	8
Committee Votes	8
Statement of Constitutional Authority	8
Committee Oversight Findings	9
Statement of Budget Authority and Related Items	9
Congressional Budget Office Estimate	9
Performance Goals and Objectives	10
Duplication of Federal Programs	10
Advisory on Earmarks	10
Federal Mandates Statement	10
Advisory Committee Statement	10
Applicability to Legislative Branch	10
Section-by-Section Analysis	11
Changes in Existing Law as Reported	11

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

H.R. 7592, a bill to direct the Librarian of Congress to promote the more cost-effective, efficient, and expanded availability of the Annotated Constitution and pocket-part supplements by replacing the hardbound versions with digital versions, introduced by Representative Stephanie Bice (OK-05) and co-sponsored by Representative Derek Kilmer (WA-06), Representative Mike Carey (OH-15), and Representative Joseph Morelle (NY-25), replaces the requirement for the Library of Congress to prepare hardbound versions of the Constitution Annotated and supplements with a requirement for the Library to instead prepare digital versions and publish them online. The new requirement applies to the supplement after the Supreme Court term beginning October 2023 and all subsequent editions.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

BACKGROUND

In 1797, nine years after the U.S. Constitution was ratified by all 13 states, Congress passed legislation requiring that every Member of Congress be provided a copy of the Constitution.¹ By that time, Congress had already passed 12 amendments to the Constitution, ten of which were ratified by the states and became known as the Bill of Rights.² Our federal system of government was still very new and, as Members of Congress understood, subject to modification. Over the course of the nineteenth century, copies provided to Members were expanded to include indexes and Supreme Court case citations.³ But as constitutional law grew increasingly complex, Congress struggled to make sense of how the Constitution's provisions applied to a range of legal questions. In 1921, the Senate took steps to address this limitation and passed S. Res. 151, a resolution providing for an updated reprint of the Constitution that would contain additional resources.

The November 23, 1921, Senate floor debate on S. Res. 151 reflected the frustration Senators increasingly encountered when trying to make sense of Supreme Court decisions and lists of citations attached to clauses of the Constitution, with no accompanying explanations or interpretations. Senator Miles Poindexter (R-WA), addressing the bill's manager, Senator Knute Nelson (R-MN), argued that merely bringing up to date the copies of the Constitution that Senators received was not particularly helpful:

I call the attention of the Senator from Minnesota to the fact that a great deal of that work was practically useless on account of the way in which it was done. As a lawyer I am sure the Senator has had the same experience I have had. The copy of the Constitution which is printed for the use of the Senate contains those annotations. After the various clauses of the Constitution is a list of the decisions of the Supreme Court, sometimes a page or more of citations. In that maze of cita-

¹ Cong. Rsch. Serv., Intro.1 The 2022 Edition, [https://constitution.congress.gov/about/constitution-annotated/#:~:text=How%20to%20cite%20the%20Constitution,.gov%20\(last%20visited%20Aug.%202024\)](https://constitution.congress.gov/about/constitution-annotated/#:~:text=How%20to%20cite%20the%20Constitution,.gov%20(last%20visited%20Aug.%202024).).

² The first ten amendments to the Constitution, known as the Bill of Rights, were ratified by the states in 1791.

³ Cong. Rsch. Serv., Intro.1 The 2022 Edition.

tions there is not a gleam of light as to what particular question under the section or clause of the Constitution was decided by the case which is cited. In order to make them of very much use the annotator ought to cite in brief language the point decided by the court in the case which he cites.⁴

Senator Frank Brandegee (R-CT) seconded the views expressed by Senator Poindexter:

I agree with the suggestion of the Senator from Washington that really, when we get 100 Supreme Court citations at the foot of one clause of the Constitution, as contained in our manual, without anything to show what particular question was before the court under that clause of the Constitution, it is not much of a labor-saving device, but we have to look through the whole of them to find perhaps the one point which we are seeking.⁵

The views expressed by Senators Poindexter and Brandegee resonated with many of their colleagues. Prior to voting to adopt S. Res. 151 on December 7, 1921, various Senators sought to confirm that the updated reprints of the Constitution would contain explanatory language, making sense of the case citations throughout.⁶ The resolution also authorized the Committee on Rules to employ a “competent person” to assist in preparing the citations and called for printing 1,500 additional copies for the use of the Senate.

In 1936, the Committee on Rules handed the responsibility for preparing citations and drafting explanatory language over to the Library of Congress, which assigned the task to the Legislative Reference Service (LRS).⁷ Compilations of the Constitution Annotated⁸ (or, CONAN as the guide is more commonly known today) were printed every 10–13 years until Members of Congress once again began to question the guide’s usefulness. This time around, the issue was that the guide quickly became outdated soon after it was printed. In 1970, Congress took steps to remedy this limitation. Senator B. Everett Jordan (D-NC), then-chairman of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, introduced S.J. Res. 236, a joint resolution requiring the LRS to prepare revised editions of CONAN every 10 years, commencing with the June 1972 edition, along with cumulative supplements every two years. The decennial editions were to be hardbound, and the biennial supplements were to be paperbound and designed to fit in a pocket in the back of the hardbound volume.⁹

After the Senate passed S.J. Res. 236 on September 25, 1970, the joint resolution was sent to the House and referred to the Committee on House Administration. The Committee favorably reported the joint resolution without amendment to the House on October 13, 1970 and recommended that it pass, which it did on De-

⁴ S. REP. No. 8155–8187, at 23 (1921).

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ S. REP. No. 79–110, at 93–95 (1921).

⁷ The Legislative Reference Service was renamed the Congressional Research Service in 1970, as part of the Legislative Reorganization Act. See H.R. No. 91–1598 (1970) for context on when the Legislative Reference Service began preparing CONAN.

⁸ By 1970, the Constitution of the United States—Analysis and Interpretation had become more popularly known as the Constitution Annotated. See H.R. No. 91–1598 (1970).

⁹ *Id.*

ember 15, 1970.¹⁰ The Committee on House Administration report accompanying S.J. Res. 236 noted that the 1964 edition of the guide, the most recent edition available at that time, was “regretably out of date in some fundamentally important areas of constitutional law”¹¹ due to a number of important Supreme Court decisions rendered since 1964. The report also noted that Members, judges, scholars, libraries, and others had regularly asked the Library of Congress to update the *Constitution Annotated*.¹² By requiring biennial supplements to CONAN, S.J. Res. 236 fulfilled a demand for more current information and vastly improved the usefulness of the guide.

The new law¹³ commenced with the printing of the 1972 hardbound edition of CONAN and has not been changed since. But while the statute has remained static, the way people access information and resources has changed tremendously. The World Wide Web entered the public domain in 1993 and made digital versions of vast print materials widely available to the public.¹⁴ The Library of Congress debuted its first website in 1994¹⁵ and 25 years later, in 2019, the *Constitution Annotated* website (constitution.congress.gov) was launched. The publicly accessible site features hundreds of pages of constitutional analysis and content, presented in a concise, user-friendly format. The site is searchable, provides links to Supreme Court decisions, and is updated in real-time by the Congressional Research Service (CRS).¹⁶ The website has received more than 28 million visits and 55 million page views since its inception and is an important resource for the public, including schools, libraries, and Congress. Additionally, CRS works closely with the Chief Information Officer at the Library of Congress to ensure that bugs are addressed and that useability and accessibility enhancements to the website are made regularly.¹⁷

Beginning with the addition of Supreme Court case citations in the nineteenth century and followed by the inclusion of case interpretations and more frequent updates in the twentieth century, Congress has long demonstrated a desire to ensure that the *Constitution Annotated* meets the evolving needs of Members and other users. The twenty-first century launch of a web-based guide continues this tradition by providing case updates and analysis as soon as the Supreme Court issues a new decision, which can be several times a week during any given term.

Because the *Constitution Annotated* website provides Members with the most up-to-date information and analysis available, eliminating production of the hardbound version and paperbound supplements is a logical next step for Congress. In testimony before

¹⁰ S.J. Res. 236 became PL 91–589 on December 24, 1970. See 2 U.S.C. 168, codifying PL 91–1589.

¹¹ See H.R. No. 91–1598 (1970).

¹² *Id.*

¹³ See PL 91–589 (1970).

¹⁴ *World Wide Web Timeline*, Pew Research Center (March 11, 2014) <https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2014/03/11/world-wide-web-timeline/>.

¹⁵ *The Library of Congress: A Timeline*, Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/about/history-of-the-library/timeline/> (last visited April 30, 2024).

¹⁶ See testimony given by Director of the Congressional Research Service Robert Randolph Newlen, *Legislative Proposals to Support Modernizing the Congressional Research Service and the Use of Federal Data: Hearing Before the H. Comm. On Admin. Modernization Subcommittee*, 118th Cong. (2024).

¹⁷ See Newlen Questions for the Record, *Legislative Proposals to Support Modernizing the Congressional Research Service and the Use of Federal Data: Hearing Before the H. Comm. On Admin. Modernization Subcommittee*, 118th Cong. (2024).

the Subcommittee on Modernization on March 20, 2024, CRS Interim Director Robert Newlen described the hardbound version of CONAN as “outdated upon delivery.”¹⁸ The legislative history of CONAN makes clear that Members and other users want the guide to be as current as possible and the website far surpasses the hardbound print in this regard. Indeed, proposed bill language to eliminate the hardcopy distribution of CONAN included in the Library of Congress’ FY 2024 budget request describes hardcopy products as “essentially obsolete and incapable of timely updates.”¹⁹

Replacing the statutory print requirement for the Constitution Annotated with a digital requirement would also provide significant cost savings for taxpayers. Mr. Newlen’s testimony describes these projected savings:

Elimination of the hardbound version of CONAN would provide significant savings for CRS as well as the Government Publishing Office (GPO). Production costs for the 2012 version of CONAN, including labor, paper and binding, totaled over \$960,000. In addition to the production of content for the print, time is required of CRS to coordinate formatting and pagination with GPO officials, contractors, and others and to perform other tasks to meet printing deadlines. In total, CRS estimates the time expended on production of the hardbound editions to be the equivalent of the work of three full-time employees. Transitioning CONAN to a digital-only product would enable CRS to better deploy its resources toward the timely production of CONAN’S digital content and enhancements to the website.²⁰

The Government Publishing Office (GPO) produced a total of 2,685 hardbound copies of CONAN in 2012 and 1,401 copies in 2022. While the original statute requires GPO to produce a set number of print copies for use by the House, Senate, and the Joint Committee on Printing (these are referred to as “bylaw” copies), GPO instead prints only the number requested by these entities.²¹ GPO’s ability to circumvent the statutory print requirement is derived from the Joint Committee on Printing, which may use “any measures it considers necessary to remedy neglect, delay, duplication, or waste in the public printing and binding and the distribution of Government publications.”²² In the case of CONAN, the Joint Committee on Printing has the authority to direct GPO to only print the number of requested copies so as to remedy waste in printing, binding, and distribution. In 2012, GPO printed 1,022 bylaw copies of CONAN; in 2022, GPO printed just 659 bylaw copies. Federal agencies are also afforded the opportunity to order

¹⁸ See testimony given by Director of the Congressional Research Service Robert Randolph Newlen, *Legislative Proposals to Support Modernizing the Congressional Research Service and the Use of Federal Data: Hearing Before the H. Comm. On Admin. Modernization Subcommittee*, 118th Cong. (2024).

¹⁹ *Fiscal 2024 Budget Justification*, United States Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/static/portals/about/reports-and-budgets/documents/budgets/fy2024.pdf>.

²⁰ See testimony given by Director of the Congressional Research Service Robert Randolph Newlen, *Legislative Proposals to Support Modernizing the Congressional Research Service and the Use of Federal Data: Hearing Before the H. Comm. On Admin. Modernization Subcommittee*, 118th Cong. (2024).

²¹ 2 U.S.C. § 168b.

²² See 44 U.S.C. § 103. Joint Committee on Printing: remedial powers.

hardbound copies, as are the federal deposit libraries.²³ Additional copies are also made available for the public to purchase. According to GPO, the 2012 hardbound edition of CONAN cost \$964,749 to produce and the 2022 edition cost an estimated \$476,528.²⁴

While GPO is responsible for printing, binding, and distributing CONAN, CRS is responsible for drafting the decennial versions, as well as the paperbound updates every two years. Today, five CRS employees spend a significant amount of their time supporting CONAN functions, although historically, other attorneys, support staff, and operations employees have contributed portions of their time to CONAN work. The estimated cost to CRS for hardbound production, based on work for the 2022 hardbound copy, is \$770,000 or the equivalent of the work of three full-time American Law Division employees together with contract costs for formatting.²⁵

Between GPO and CRS, the total cost of producing the 2022 edition of CONAN was an estimated \$1,246,528.²⁶ Notably, this figure does not include the cost to CRS of performing the core work necessary for maintaining the CONAN website, including research, writing, and presenting on constitutional developments contemporaneous with the Supreme Court's issuance of new decisions. Also not included in this estimate is the additional cost of producing and printing the biennial paperbound supplements.

NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Replacing the CONAN print requirement with a digital requirement will eliminate inefficient use of both GPO and CRS staff time and will save significant costs associated with printing, producing, and distributing the hardbound version and paperbound supplements. The legislative history of the Constitution Annotated makes clear that Congress prioritizes current interpretation and analysis of Supreme Court cases, which the CONAN website currently provides. The hardbound version of CONAN is, by contrast, “an inferior research tool . . . because of the time required to produce the print version, there will always be a lag between when the Su-

²³ GPO reports that most of the orders they receive come from the federal courts. The U.S. Supreme Court, for example, requested 23 hardbound copies of the 2022 CONAN. Subcommittee staff spoke with the Court's acting librarian who noted that the Court's practice is to cite print versions of documents whenever they are available. Despite this preference for print, the acting librarian noted that the Court has adjusted when other publications have moved to digital-only versions.

²⁴ The 2022 numbers provided by GPO only noted that the total cost was for printing and binding. GPO is currently conducting an internal financial audit to determine if that number should also specify labor, as is the case for the 2012 costs. GPO also notes that the agency changed production processes for the 2022 CONAN so a comprehensive, direct “apples to apples” comparison of labor costs isn't possible. Some of the labor costs related to the 2022 CONAN production were more appropriately attributable to building the capability for CONAN production into GPO's new XPub composition system as part of its development process. As a result, those costs were deemed part of the development costs of XPub, similar to how costs associated with building the capability to produce bills, resolutions, amendments, and reports are considered XPub development costs.

²⁵ See Newlen Questions for the Record, *Legislative Proposals to Support Modernizing the Congressional Research Service and the Use of Federal Data: Hearing Before the H. Comm. On Admin. Modernization Subcommittee*, 118th Cong. (2024). (Note that these costs do not include the estimated cost of performing core CONAN functions, which include research, writing, and presenting on constitutional developments contemporaneous with the Supreme Court's issuance of new decisions so as to ensure that CONAN is always current.)

²⁶ *Id.* (GPO provided an estimated total cost figure of \$476,528 for producing the 2022 edition of CONAN. This, combined with CRS's estimated cost of \$770,000 equals \$1,246,528.)

preme Court issues a decision and when that decision will be available in a print format.”²⁷

CRS reports that the CONAN website is already important to the public, including to schools, libraries, and Congress as evidenced by the more than 28 million visits and 55 million page views since its 2019 release. Importantly, the web site is based on open-source technology in wide use within the Library of Congress, ensuring that the site won’t be restricted by proprietary software constraints or dependent on outside vendor expertise. This will help ensure that the site can be continually improved.²⁸

Finally, GPO notes that there is precedent for discontinuing print editions of “prestige documents” like CONAN and replacing them with digital versions. For example, the annual print edition of the *Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States* was discontinued effective December 29, 2022, and made available in a digital-only format.²⁹ Because the most recent edition of the hardbound CONAN was distributed in late 2023, and the next edition is not scheduled to be released until 2032, the time is ripe to remove the print requirement and switch to a digital-only version.

COMMITTEE ACTION

INTRODUCTION AND REFERRAL

On March 8, 2024, Representative Stephanie Bice (OK–05), Chairwoman of the Committee on House Administration’s Subcommittee on Modernization, joined by Representative Derek Kilmer (WA–06), Representative Mike Carey (OH–15), and Representative Joseph Morelle (NY–25), introduced H.R. 7592, a bill to direct the Librarian of Congress to promote the more cost-effective, efficient, and expanded availability of the Annotated Constitution and pocket-part supplements by replacing the hardbound versions with digital versions. The bill was referred to the Committee on House Administration on March 8, 2024, and to the Committee on House Administration’s Subcommittee on Modernization on March 11, 2024.

HEARINGS

For the purposes of clause 3(c)(6)(A) of House rule XIII, in the 118th Congress, the Subcommittee on Modernization held two Subcommittees hearings regarding H.R. 7592.

1. On April 26, 2023, the Subcommittee on Modernization held a hearing titled, “The Path Toward a More Modern and Effective Congressional Research Service.” The hearing focused on CRS’s leadership and strategic goals and how CRS can best meet the needs of a modern Congress, including by incorporating technology to better advise and assist Congress. The hearing was a first step in a longer-term process of strengthening and improving the agency to meet the needs of an evolving Congress. The Subcommittee heard testimony from Dr.

²⁷ See Newlen Questions for the Record, *Legislative Proposals to Support Modernizing the Congressional Research Service and the Use of Federal Data: Hearing Before the H. Comm. On Admin. Modernization Subcommittee*, 118th Cong. (2024).

²⁸ *Id.*

²⁹ See Discontinuation of Public Papers of the Presidents Book Series and Removal of Microfiche as Official Format of the Federal Register and Code of Federal Regulations, 87 Fed. Reg. 79999 (Dec. 29, 2022) (codified at 1 C.F.R. § 2,5,8,10,11,12).

Mary B. Mazanec, CRS Director, Joseph Dunne, Director of the European Parliament Liaison Office in Washington, D.C., and formerly a Director in the European Parliamentary Research Service, Richard Coffin, Chief of Research and Advocacy at USA Facts, and Kevin Kosar, Senior Fellow of Legal and Constitutional Studies at American Enterprise Institute.³⁰

2. On March 20, 2024, the Subcommittee held a legislative hearing titled, “Legislative Proposals to Support Modernizing the Congressional Research Service and the Use of Federal Data.” The purpose of the hearing was to initiate a legislative record and receive testimony on three measures referred to the Subcommittee: H.R. 7592, To Direct the Librarian of Congress to promote the more cost-effective, efficient, and expanded availability of the Annotated Constitution and pocket-part supplements by replacing the hardbound versions with digital versions; H.R. 7593, the Modernizing the Congressional Research Service’s Access to Data Act; and H. Con. Res. 49, the Congressional Evidence-Based Policymaking Resolution. The Subcommittee heard testimony from Robert Newlen, CRS Interim Director, Elise J. Bean, Director, Washington Office, Carl Levin Center for Oversight and Democracy at Wayne State University Law School, Dr. Matthew Glassman, Senior Fellow, Government Affairs Institute at Georgetown University, and Dr. Nicholas Hart, President and CEO, Data Foundation.³¹

COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

On April 11, 2024, the Subcommittee on Modernization met in open session and ordered the bill, H.R. 7592, a bill to direct the Librarian of Congress to promote the more cost-effective, efficient, and expanded availability of the Annotated Constitution and pocket-part supplements by replacing the hardbound versions with digital versions, reported favorably to the Committee on House Administration, by voice vote, a quorum being present.

On April 30, 2024, the Committee on House Administration met in open session and ordered the bill, H.R. 7592, a bill to direct the Librarian of Congress to promote the more cost-effective, efficient, and expanded availability of the Annotated Constitution and pocket-part supplements by replacing the hardbound versions with digital versions, reported favorably to the House of Representatives, by voice vote, a quorum being present.

COMMITTEE VOTES

In compliance with clause 3(b) of House rule XIII, the following vote occurred during the Committee’s consideration of H.R. 7592:

1. Vote to report H.R. 7592 favorably to the House of Representatives, passed by voice vote.

STATEMENT OF CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

³⁰*The Path Toward a More Modern and Effective Congressional Research Service: Hearing Before the Subcommittee on Modernization*, 118th Cong. (2023).

³¹*Legislative Proposals to Support Modernizing the Congressional Research Service and the Use of Federal Data: Hearing Before the Subcommittee on Modernization*, 118th Cong. (2024).

- Article I, Section 8, Clause 18—“To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.”³²

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

In compliance with clause 3(c)(1) of House rule XIII, the Committee advises that the findings and recommendations of the Committee, based on oversight activities under clause 2(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, are incorporated in the descriptive portions of this report.

STATEMENT OF BUDGET AUTHORITY AND RELATED ITEMS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(I) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee provides the following opinion and estimate with respect to new budget authority, entitlement authority, and tax expenditures. The Committee believes that H.R. 7592 will lead to cost savings and efficiencies and does not impact budget or entitlement authority or tax expenditures.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE ESTIMATE

With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, a cost estimate provided by the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was received and included in the report materials. The Chairman of the Committee shall cause such an estimate to be printed in the Congressional Record if it is received by the Committee.

H.R. 7592, a bill to direct the Librarian of Congress to promote the more cost-effective, efficient, and expanded availability of the Annotated Constitution and pocket-part supplements by replacing the hardbound versions with digital versions			
As ordered reported by the House Committee on House Administration on April 30, 2024			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2024	2024-2029	2024-2034
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	-4	not estimated
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2035?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No
		Mandate Effects	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2035?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

³² U.S. CONST. art. I, § 8, cl. 18.

H.R. 7592 would eliminate the requirement that the Library of Congress (LOC) prepare hardbound copies of the *Constitution of the United States of America: Analysis and Interpretation*. The bill would require the agency to publish the document online. The change would apply to editions produced for the Supreme Court term beginning October 2023 and subsequent editions.

Using information from LOC, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 7592 would reduce the agency's operating costs by \$4 million over the 2025–2029 period. Any reduction in spending would require appropriations to be reduced by the estimated amounts.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Susan Beyer. The estimate was reviewed by Christina Hawley Anthony, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director, Congressional Budget Office.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The performance goals and objectives of H.R. 7592 are to promote the more cost-effective, efficient, and expanded availability of the Annotated Constitution and pocket-part supplements by replacing the hardbound versions with digital versions.

DUPLICATION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(5) of House rule XIII, no provision of H.R. 7592 establishes or reauthorizes a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another federal program.

ADVISORY ON EARMARKS

In accordance with clause 9 of House rule XXI, H.R. 7592 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clauses 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of House rule XXI.

FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

An estimate of federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act was not made available to the Committee in time for the filing of this report. The Chairman of the Committee shall cause such an estimate to be printed in the Congressional Record if it is received by the Committee.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

H.R. 7592 does not establish or authorize any new advisory committees.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1. Repeal requirement for Congressional Research Service to prepare Annotated Constitution and supplements in hardbound version

This section directs the Librarian of Congress to replace the hardbound versions of the Annotated Constitution and supplements with digital versions, commencing upon the completion of the October 2031 term of the Supreme Court.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

PUBLIC LAW 91-589

* * * * *

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) subject to subsection (b), the Librarian of Congress shall have prepared—

(1) a hardbound revised edition of the Constitution of the United States of America-Analysis and Interpretation, published as Senate Document Numbered 39, Eighty-eighth Congress (referred to hereinafter as the “Constitution Annotated”), which shall contain annotations of decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States through the end of the October 1971 term of the Supreme Court, construing provisions of the Constitution;

(2) upon the completion of each of the October 1973, October 1975, October 1977, and October 1979 terms of the Supreme Court, a cumulative pocket-part supplement to the hardbound revised edition of the Constitution Annotated prepared pursuant to clause (I), which shall contain cumulative annotations of all such decisions rendered by the Supreme Court after the end of the October 1971 term;

(3) upon the completion of the October 1981 term of the Supreme Court, and upon the completion of each tenth October term of the Supreme Court thereafter, a hardbound decennial revised edition of the constitution Annotated, which shall contain annotations of all decisions theretofore rendered by the Supreme Court construing provisions of the Constitution; and

(4) upon the completion of the October 1983 term of the Supreme Court, and upon the completion of each subsequent October term of the Supreme Court beginning in an odd-numbered year (the final digit of which is not a I), a cumulative pocket-part supplement to the most recent hardbound decennial revised edition of the Constitution Annotated, which shall contain cumulative annotations of all such decisions rendered by the Supreme Court which were not included in that hardbound decennial revised edition of the Constitution Annotated.

(b)(1) Upon the completion of the October 2031 term of the Supreme Court and upon the completion of each tenth October term of the Supreme Court thereafter, the Librarian of Congress shall have prepared a digital decennial revised edition of the Constitution Annotated, which shall contain annotations of all decisions theretofore rendered by the Supreme Court construing provisions of the Constitution, in place of the hardbound decennial revised edition of the Constitution Annotated described in subsection (a)(3).

(2) Upon the completion of the October 2023 term of the Supreme Court and upon the completion of each subsequent October term of the Supreme Court beginning in an odd-numbered year (the final digit of which is not a 1), the Librarian shall have prepared a digital cumulative pocket-part supplement to the most recent decennial revised edition of the Constitution Annotated, which shall contain cumulative annotations of all such decisions rendered by the Supreme Court which were not included in the most recent revised edition of the Constitution Annotated, in place of the hardbound editions of the cumulative pocket-part supplement described in subsection (a)(4).

SEC. 2. (a) All hardbound revised editions and all cumulative pocket-part supplements shall be printed as Senate documents.

(b)(1) The digital decennial revised editions of the Constitution Annotated prepared under subsection (b)(1) of the first section of this Joint Resolution and the digital cumulative pocket-part supplements prepared under subsection (b)(2) of the first section of this Joint Resolution shall be available at a public website of the Library of Congress.

(2) The Librarian of Congress shall ensure the continuing availability of the documents referred to in paragraph (1) to Congress and the public.

SEC. 3. (a) *There shall be printed* four thousand eight hundred and seventy additional copies of the hardbound revised editions prepared pursuant to clause (1) of the first section and of all cumulative pocket-part supplements thereto, of which two thousand six hundred and thirty-four copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives, one thousand two hundred and thirty-six copies shall be for the use of the Senate, and one thousand copies shall be for the use of the Joint Committee on Printing. All Members of the Congress, Vice Presidents of the United States, and Delegates and Resident Commissioners, newly elected subsequent to the issuance of the hardbound revised edition prepared pursuant to such clause and prior to the first hardbound decennial revised edition, who did not receive a copy of the edition prepared pursuant to such clause, shall, upon timely request, receive one copy of such edition and the then current cumulative pocket-part supplement and any further supplements thereto. All Members of the Congress, Vice Presidents of the United States, and Delegates and Resident Commissioners, 110 longer serving after the issuance of the hardbound revised edition prepared pursuant to such clause and who received such edition, may receive one copy of each cumulative pocket-part supplement thereto upon timely request.

(b) Subsection (a) does not apply after completion of the October 2023 term of the Supreme Court, and the Librarian of Congress shall provide the decennial revised editions of the Constitution Annotated and the cumulative pocket part supplements prepared under

this Joint Resolution exclusively in a digital format available at a public website of the Library of Congress.

**[SEC. 4. Additional copies of each hardbound decennial revised edition and of the cumulative pocket-part supplements thereto shall be printed and distributed in accordance with the provisions of any concurrent resolution hereafter adopted with respect thereto.
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