This is a guide to XML, how it is currently being used by the United States Congress, and how the Cato Institute plans to improve legislative transparency with enhanced tagging and improved data relationships.
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XML Overview

XML (short for eXtensible Markup Language) is a protocol used to define and transport data. Similar to HTML, the markup language underlying the World Wide Web, XML structures and contains data, making it more useful than unstructured information. For novices, right-clicking on a Web page and selecting "View Source" will reveal the HTML version of the page—the simpler the page the better—and provide an idea of what XML looks like.

Where HTML is a defined standard, XML does not have any predefined or standardized tags. All elements in XML are defined and structured by the author in a separate document – either a DTD (Document Type Definition) or XML schema file. When the elements are parsed by an external software program, the information can be put to whatever use that program facilitates. Because XML documents can be processed by computers, they are considered "machine readable."

A very basic XML document may look something like this:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<presidents>
  <name name-id="W000178">
    <firstname>George</firstname>
    <lastname>Washington</lastname>
  </name>
  <name name-id="A000038">
    <firstname>John</firstname>
    <lastname>Adams</lastname>
  </name>
</presidents>
```

In this document:

- `<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>` is an XML Declaration. Every XML document must start with a declaration specifying that it is XML, as well as the version number. Declaring the encoding can also be important because it denotes the way characters – numbers letters, and symbols – are encoded in the document.
- `<presidents>` is the root element. All XML documents must have a root element as a container for all other tags. The root element will generally use a name that describes the overall content of the document.
- Parent elements and child elements add information in a way that makes clear the relationships among the things they describe. The root element is the top-most parent element, so `<presidents>` is the parent element of its child element, `<name>`, in turn is the parent of child elements `<firstname>` and `<lastname>`. An element is closed by a tag repeating its name preceded by a forward slash, e.g. `<firstname>` or `<lastname>`. All child elements must be closed before their parent element closes. This is called nesting.
- `name-id` is an attribute. Attributes provide additional information about elements. So, an attribute of `<name>` is its distinct identifier, `name-id`. Elements can contain multiple attributes, and different elements can share names and values, but each attribute can have only one value per element. So while `<name name-id="A000038" fullname="John Adams" name-id="R000027">` would be a valid use of attributes, `<name name-id="A000038" fullname="John Adams" name-id="R000027">` would not be valid.

When XML is used to tag elements in a text, it makes the semantics of the text easier to discover using a computer. The XML will "surround" the relevant piece of text. For example:

```xml
When <name name-id="A000038">President <lastname>Adams</lastname></name> lost his reelection bid, he retired to Massachusetts.
```

Because the name-id value "A000038" is a unique identifier assigned to him, this tagging makes clear to a computer that the president referred to here is President John Adams, the second president of the United States, and not his son John Quincy Adams, the sixth president of the United States.

Other important XML terms and concepts include the following:

- Namespaces
Namespaces avoid naming conflicts among elements. Because XML is not a predefined standard, two different versions of XML could use the same element names differently. The element `<title>`, for example, is already a standardized HTML element, but it is also frequently used in other XML schemata. So if one were to use HTML and XML in the same document, adding a namespace to the XML element would avoid confusion among elements and attributes that might have the same name in the two different vocabularies. Namespaces can also be used to define XML tags standardized by a specific group or organization.

There are multiple ways namespaces can be declared. Here are a few:

**Format 1:**

```xml
<[abbrev]:[parentElement] xmlns:[abbrev]="[name]">
```

For example:

```xml
<cato:presidents xmlns:cato="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml"
                 xmlns:cato="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml"
                 xmlns:cato="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml">
    <cato:name name-id="A000038">
        <firstname>John</firstname>
        <lastname>Adams</lastname>
    </cato:name>
</cato:presidents>
```

In this format, the namespace is defined under the `parentElement` and is only used to prefix some of the elements. The attribute `xmlns` ("xml name space") defines the namespace name "http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml" as well as the prefix `cato:`. It is common, though not required, for the namespace name to be a URL that points to the namespace’s definitions. In this example, the `cato:` prefix is not used under the `<firstname>` and `<lastname>` elements. This indicates that these elements were not created by the originator of the `cato:` namespace.

**Format 2:**

```xml
<[parentElement] xmlns:[abbrev]="[name]">
```

For example:

```xml
<presidents xmlns:cato="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml"
            xmlns:cato="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml">
    <cato:name name-id="A000038">
        <cato:firstname>John</cato:firstname>
        <cato:lastname>Adams</cato:lastname>
    </cato:name>
</presidents>
```

This format is similar to the first except that the `cato:` prefix is not used under the `parentElement` and all child elements adopt the namespace properties. This indicates that the `parentElement <presidents>` was not created by the `cato:` namespace originator. Namespace declarations, however, can still be made in the `parentElement`.

**Format 3:**

```xml
<[parentElement] xmlns="[name]">
```

For example:

```xml
<presidents xmlns="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml"
            xmlns="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml">
    <name name-id="A000038">
        <firstname xmlns="">John</firstname>
        <lastname xmlns="">Adams</lastname>
    </name>
</presidents>
```

In this example, the "http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml" namespace is defined under the `parentElement <presidents>` and all following child elements are assumed to inherit that namespace. If a child
element does not share the namespace properties of its parent element, a new namespace declaration must be made to change or nullify those properties. In this example, <firstname> and <lastname> define an empty namespace xmlns="" to nullify the namespace properties of its parent element. The prefix cato: is bound wherever the "http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml" namespace is applicable. Cato XML most often uses Format 2, where the namespace is defined in the root element and prefixes denote the Cato elements, but any namespace declaration format will be recognized.

DOM and Nodes

The standard that defines all pieces of an XML document is called the DOM, or the Document Object Model. The DOM is the unseen interface that breaks down the pieces of any XML document into a series of nodes. An entire document is a document node, elements are element nodes, the root element is the root node, strings of text surrounded by elements are text nodes, and attributes are attribute nodes. The DOM breaks down all nodes into a node-tree which explains the hierarchical nature of the document. The following is a sample XML document followed by its DOM:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<presidents xmlns:cato="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml">
  <cato:name name-id="W000178">
    <firstname>George</firstname>
    <lastname>Washington</lastname>
  </cato:name>
  <cato:name name-id="A000038">
    <firstname>John</firstname>
    <lastname>Adams</lastname>
  </cato:name>
</presidents>
```

Metadata

Metadata is data about data, or additional information about the document’s content that does not appear in the data itself – information like the language the document uses, the copyright status of the document, and so on. In XML, it is very simple to incorporate metadata into documents to make document management easier. Metadata is generally included at the top of the page before the body of text. Elements may differ among documents, but the metadata section typically looks something like this:

```xml
<metadata xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">
  <dublinCore>
  </dublinCore>
</metadata>
```

For more information on XML DOM, please read [http://www.w3schools.com/dom/default.asp](http://www.w3schools.com/dom/default.asp).
dc: is the namespace abbreviation for Dublin Core, which is a project intended to provide standardized metadata vocabularies for a wide variety of XML projects. This makes for easier interpretation by web crawlers and other programs that interact with XML.

**Metadata elements** are elements that define metadata for a given text node. Attributes frequently add metadata to a span of text. House XML and Cato XML define multiple metadata elements, which are discussed below.

**House XML**

House XML is our name for the set of standardized XML elements used to define the most commonly used structures, sections, references, and terms in legislative documents that Congress publishes. The definitions were first created in 1998 and were most recently updated in 2004. A list of all standardized elements and attributes can be found in the bill.dtd file at xml.house.gov. As of now, a large majority of the elements defined by the House are unused. The elements that are used mostly define the structure of the document, but some identify meaningful content.

We have divided our catalogue of House XML elements by their major purposes, and we categorize them in five ways:

- **Structural elements**, which properly format the XML.
- **Procedural elements**, which define information about the procedural status of the document.
- **Organizational elements**, which define specific levels and types of text found in the document.
- **Display elements**, which define how text should be printed.
- **Nominal/Descriptive elements**, which identify terms, documents, and other meaningful things referred to in legislative documents.

The elements found in House XML are discussed in this order below.

**Structural Elements**

Many of the in-use House XML elements are purely structural, meaning that they do not define specific content, but rather help properly format the XML. Structural elements include:

**Root Elements**

```xml
<bill>
  Root element for all XML formatted bills. All other elements are hierarchically under this element. This element defines the overall type and structure of the bill. For example:

  <bill bill-stage="Introduced-in-House" bill-type="olc" dms-id="HA151391BBB5E4F9CAB0D7249E9F93A85" key="H" public-private="public">

Attributes used vary, but they can include:

- **bill-stage** Values in use include "Introduced-in-House", "Engrossed-in-House", "Placed-on-Calender-Senate", "Received-in-Senate", "Reported-in-House", and so on.

- **bill-type** Denotes the style of the bill. This generally affects header and indentation style in the PDF and print-out versions of the bill. Values include "olc" (Office of the Legislative Counsel, the default style that a vast majority of bills use), "traditional" (used for some very short bills), and "appropriations" (used for some appropriations legislation).
```
This defines a document management system URI that can be used for references to the bill itself. The value of dms-id is usually prefixed with "H" (but occasionally it is prefixed with "ID") and followed by 32 random characters, although a few bills have a dms-id value of simply "A1".

This is an infrequently used attribute that identifies the organization that created the present version of the bill. Valid values are "H" (House), "S" (Senate), "G" (GPO), and "L" (Library of Congress).

Declares whether the bill is “public” (pertaining to the general population) or “private” (pertaining to a specific individual or group of individuals). A vast majority of legislation is public, but occasionally private legislation is proposed, often to provide compensation to, or change the immigration status of, specific individuals.

<resolution> Root element for all XML formatted resolutions. Like <bill> all other elements are hierarchically under this element and its attributes define the overall type and structure of the resolution. For example:

<resolution dms-id="HAC1645E692F249FCB7AB1893F87F7E6" key="H" public-private="public" resolution-stage="Introduced-in-House" resolution-type="house-concurrent" star-print="no-star-print">

Attributes include:

dms-id This defines a document management system URI that can be used for references to the resolution itself. The URI is prefixed with "H" followed by 32 random characters.

key This is an infrequently used attribute that identifies the organization that created the present version of the bill. Valid values are "H" (House), "S" (Senate), "G" (GPO), and "L" (Library of Congress).

public-private Declares whether the resolution is "public" (pertaining to the general population) or "private" (pertaining to a specific individual or group of individuals).

resolution-stage States the resolution’s stage in the legislative process. In-use values include "Introduced-in-House", "Reported-in-House", "Engrossed-in-House", "Placed-on-Calendar-Senate", "Enrolled-Bill", "Received-in-Senate", and "Referred-in-Senate".

resolution-type Declares what type of resolution the document is. In-use values include "house-concurrent", "house-resolution", "house-joint", "senate-concurrent", "senate-resolution", "senate-joint" and "constitutional-amendment".

star-print States whether the resolution is a reprint or not. "first-star-print" is used to mean it’s the first reprint, while "no-star-print" means that it is not a reprint.

<amendment-doc> Root element for all XML formatted amendments. All other elements are hierarchically under this element and its attributes define the overall type and structure of the amendment. For example:

<amendment-doc amend-stage="proposed" amend-type="house-amendment" amend-degree="first">

Attributes in-use include:
amend-stage Identifies the stage of the amendment. Values include "approved", "pending", "proposed", and "submitted".

amend-type Identifies the type of amendment. Values in-use include "engrossed-amendment" and "house-amendment".

amend-degree Identifies the degree of the amendment. Valid values are "first" for first degree amendments (amendments to the measure under consideration) and "second" for second degree amendments (amendments to the first degree amendment while it is pending).

Text Container Elements

Following the root element, there are typically a number of procedural elements (discussed below), followed by text container elements that surround the text of the measure.

<legis-body> Parent element to all legislative content in bills. Uses the id and style attributes. For example:
<legis-body id="HCFE52D9633C14CE8DC1E2C5DCEADF4E" style="OLC">

<resolution-body> Parent element to all content in resolutions. Uses the id and style attributes. For example:
<resolution-body id="H1EF2D386C92045C18EA2E47A2C81EEDC" style="traditional">

<amendment-body> Parent element to all content in amendments.

Procedural Elements

Many of the elements in House XML are used to define procedural content in legislative documents. These elements primarily specify standardized actions in the legislative process. These can appear at the beginning of a document under the <form> element, or at the very end of the document under the <attestation> element.

Opening Procedural Elements

<form>
  <distribution-code display="yes">IV</distribution-code>
  <congress display="yes">112th CONGRESS</congress>
  <session display="yes">2d Session</session>
  <legis-num>H. CON. RES. 105</legis-num>
  <current-chamber>IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES</current-chamber>
  <action display="yes">
    <action-date date="20120228">February 28, 2012</action-date>
    <action-desc>
      <sponsor name-id="H001050">Ms. Hanabusa</sponsor>{for herself and
      <cosponsor name-id="H001042">Ms. Hirono</cosponsor> submitted the
      following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the <committee-
      name committee-id="HHA00">Committee on House Administration</committee-
      name>
    </action-desc>
  </action>
  <legis-type>CONCURRENT RESOLUTION</legis-type>
  <official-title display="yes">Authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the
  Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King
  Kamehameha.</official-title>
</form>
<form>
  Container element for all procedural elements at the beginning of documents.
</form>

<distribution-code>
  Contains the Government Printing Office code used to identify the stage or type of legislation. In-use distribution codes include "I" (Public Bills introduced in the House), "IA" (Joint Resolutions introduced in the House), "IB" (Public Bills and Joint Resolutions reported in the House), "II" (Public Bills and Joint Resolutions reported in the Senate), "IV" (Simple and Concurrent House Resolutions), and "V" (Private Bills introduced in the House). The display attribute denotes whether the content of the element will be visible.
</distribution-code>

$congress$
  Identifies the two-year meeting of Congress in which the document was introduced (e.g. "112th Congress")

<session>
  Identifies the one-year session of the Congress in which the document was introduced. Text will either be "1st Session" or "2d Session." This element can include the attribute display, which signifies whether the text will be printed or not, the values of which can be either "yes" or "no".
</session>

<legis-num>
</legis-num>

<current-chamber>
  Identifies the chamber in which the version of the bill is being considered. This element will either contain "IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES" or "IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES"
</current-chamber>

<action>
  Contains information about what has happened with the bill, including the date of introduction (<action-date>), and a description of the action (<action-desc>), including sponsors (<sponsor>), cosponsors (<cosponsor>), committee referrals (<committee-name>), and other relevant information. Elements under the <action> element include:
</action>

<action-desc>
  Container element for all action elements.
</action-desc>

<sponsor>, <cosponsor>, and <nonsponsor>
  Used to identify office holders having something to do with the document. For example:
  <cosponsor name-id="B000755">Mr. Brady of Texas</cosponsor>

Each <sponsor>, <cosponsor>, and <nonsponsor> element contains the
The value of this attribute is the elected official's identifier from the Congressional bioguide found at http://bioguide.congress.gov/biosearch/biosearch.asp. This is a standardized system for assigning every federal elective official – present and past – with a unique identifier.

The committee-id attribute references the committee codes established by the House and Senate. The House committee identifiers are officially documented at http://cha.house.gov/sites/republicans.cha.house.gov/files/documents/committee_docs/CommitteeRepository-NamingConventions-v1-2-1.pdf and Senate committee identifiers can be found at http://www.senate.gov/legislative/LIS_MEMBER/cvc_member_data.xml. While inconsistencies exist between codes for the joint committees, the codes defined by the Senate are the more frequently used identifiers. Committee identifiers can be found in Appendix 1.

Element that defines the kind of legislation. Types include CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, JOINT RESOLUTION, RESOLUTION, A BILL, AN ACT, and Amendment.

Identifies the official, long-form title of the given piece of legislation (such as "Establishing the Congressional Commission on the European Union, and for other purposes.").

Identifies the shortened title for a given piece of legislation (such as "Congressional Commission on the European Union Resolution").

An infrequently used element used to contain the details of an endorsement. Endorsements are procedural details printed on the back of hardcopy legislation and are added by the GPO or clerks. This element uses the <action-date> and <action-description> elements to tag details of the endorsement. For example:

When used, endorsements are included at the end of the document, after the closing </legis-body> tag and before the closing root element (either </bill> or </resolution>). In print, this information is found at the back of the bill or resolution and is added by either the GPO or the House Enrolling Clerks.

Infrequently used container elements containing the details of the person who certifies the occurrence of events in the legislative process. For example:
Additional attestation elements are:

<attestation-date> Details the date and chamber in which the event occurred. Attributes used include date (the value of which is formatted YYYYMMDD, so May 20, 2011, for example, would be "20110520") and chamber (which will be either "House" or "Senate").

<attestor> The name of the individual who certified the occurrence.

<role> The job title of the attestor. This is generally either "Clerk" or "Secretary".

Organizational

Federal legislation is highly structured. The basic unit of legislation is the section. Sections can be nested under seven higher levels (division, title, subtitle, part, subpart, chapter, and subchapter). Sections can contain seven levels of hierarchy nested under them (subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, clause, subclause, item, and subitem).

Text Hierarchy Elements

Many of the organizational elements define blocks and strings of text in this hierarchy. In print, these are signaled by indentations, enumerators, and text styling. There are some exceptions and levels can be skipped, but 99% of the time the textual hierarchy is as follows:

```
<division> This is the topmost level of text hierarchy. It is a container element for specific sections and defining legislative structure and uses the id and style attributes and is typically enumerated with an uppercase letter. For example:

<division id="H9D9752474A6F4BF0BB2A49FD7DC69E1E" style="OLC">
  <enum>A</enum>
</division>

<title> Defines titles and uses the id, style, commented, and level-type attributes for reference. The purpose of commented is not entirely clear, but where used the value is always "no", while level-type signifies how the subsequent enumerator will be designated in the printed version of the bill (the only in-use value is "subsequent" which is printed as "Sec."). For example:

<title commented="no" id="H7E0FDE1875CE4878BF1AB93FAFA8FE4B" level-type="subsequent">
  <enum>II</enum>
</title>
```

This text would print as the following in the PDF or hardcopy version of the bill:

```
Sec. II Leasing Program for land within Coastal Plain
```
<subtitle>
Similar rules to <title> element but defines subtitles and only uses the id attribute. Typically enumerated with uppercase letters. For example:

<title id="H428F3E42F3A4B1593C50FDB787679A3">
<enum>IV</enum><header>Drilling</header>
</subtitle>

<subtitle id="HE06E5C5899EA44F2B94E8D662B717B0C2">
<enum>A</enum><header>Tax provisions</header>
</subtitle>
</title>

<part>
The next lower unit in the hierarchy. Uses the id attribute and is generally enumerated with uppercase roman numerals (but frequently also uses numbers and uppercase letters) For example:

<part id="H118F7D3D580B42E6AF71BEC9BDF766E8">
<enum>VIII</enum>
</part>
</part>

<subpart>
Similar to <part> but hierarchically under the <part> tag. Typically enumerated with uppercase roman numerals, numbers, and uppercase letters. For example:

<subpart id="HAB705E988FC24C24C29801DE3EA5BC1DCF2">
<enum>B</enum>
</subpart>
</subpart>

<chapter>
Used to define chapters which typically contain a series of sections, subsections, paragraphs, and subparagraphs. Contains attributes for id, commented ("yes" or "no" value, the meanings of which are unclear), and level-type ("undesignated" or "subsequent", the meanings of which are also unclear). Typically enumerated with numbers. For example:

<chapter id="H22AD1F7C3D4F4AFB904538C5479D5238">
<enum>37</enum>
</chapter>
</chapter>

<subchapter>
Similar rules as <chapter> but used for subchapters and only uses the id attribute. Typically enumerated with uppercase roman numerals and uppercase letters. For example:

<subchapter id="H91A9D2EE586B41AB8E38A53834D8C52E">
<enum>V</enum>
</subchapter>
</subchapter>

<section>
The basic unit of legislative text. Attributes used include display-inline ("yes-display-inline" or "no-display-inline"), id, and section-type ("undesignated-section", "section-one", "subsequent-section", or "resolved"). The attribute section-type signifies how the section will be designated in the printed version of the bill ("section-one" appears as Section, the default "subsequent-section" appears as Sec., "resolved" appears as Resolved, and "undesignated-section" appears as nothing). Typically enumerated with a number followed by a period. For example:

<section id="H38CC28DAE4414969ABDC1D4F8E3C31AC" section-type="section-one">
<enum>1.</enum>
<header>Short title</header>
<text display-inline="no-display-inline">This Act may be cited as the<quote>Small Company Capital Formation Act of 2011</quote>.</text>
</section>
SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
This Act may be cited as the “Small Company Capital Formation Act of 2011”.

Contains similar content beneath <section> in the hierarchy and only uses an id reference. Typically enumerated with a lowercase letter in parentheses. For example:

<subsection id="HE3CFEDF5D3B8489BB07A047C388A0">
<enum>(a)</enum><header>In general</header><text display-inline="yes-display-inline">The Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association (in this resolution referred to as the <quote>sponsor</quote>) shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, soap box derby races (in this resolution referred to as the <quote>event</quote>), on the Capitol Grounds.</text></subsection>

Specifies the text level as a paragraph, and uses the id attribute for reference. Typically enumerated with a number in parentheses. For example:

<paragraph id="HA518779C57EB4C1E958FC43F9C9E11EC">
<enum>(3)</enum><text>a reformed and simplified Tax Code should include properly structured tax incentives to maintain and contribute to such plans and to strengthen retirement security for all Americans.</text></paragraph>

Similar to <paragraph> but only situated within paragraphs. Typically enumerated with an uppercase letter in parentheses. For example:

<subparagraph id="H79FE3C73C9454DDDB45F22D5875848F">
<enum>(A)</enum><text>requests that the Government of China honor its obligations under the United Nations Convention relating to the 1951 Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol; and</text></subparagraph>

Used to tag clauses. Contains an id attribute for unique identification. Typically enumerated with lowercase roman numerals. For example:

<clause id="H2DCEC9A094B044DE96406CAD77689D26">
<enum>(ii)</enum><text>an urgent, pressing, and compelling need requiring immediate action;</text></clause>

Same rules as <clause> but used for subclauses. Typically enumerated with uppercase roman numerals. For example:

<subclause id="HC96B5C2C02604F8BA3A91CD606C22E">
<enum>(II)</enum><text>paragraph (A) shall not apply in determining such individual’s primary insurance amount.</text></subclause>

Structure beneath subclauses. Uses the id attribute and is typically enumerated with two lowercase letters. For example:

<item id="idEF068C24C5F445A9A8D5B962266F1F4F">
<enum>(aa)</enum><text>race;</text></item>
Same rules as <item> but used for subitems. Typically enumerated with two uppercase letters. For example:

<pre><subitem id="H5DD4A19CF28B4220A099D881401C621A">
<enum>(AA)</enum>
</subitem></pre>

For violations arising from a single inspection or examination shall not exceed $2,500; and</text>

Table of Contents Elements

The Table of Contents section in a legislative document is defined using a series of section-specific elements. For example:

<pre>&lt;toc regeneration="no-regeneration"&gt;
 &lt;toc-entry bold="on" level="section">Chapter</toc-entry&gt;
 &lt;multi-column-toc-entry bold="on" level="chapter"&gt;
 &lt;toc-enum&gt;1.&lt;/toc-enum&gt;
 &lt;level-header level="chapter">Definitions</level-header&gt;
 &lt;target&gt;1&lt;/target&gt;
&lt;/multi-column-toc-entry&gt;</pre>

Elements specific to the table of contents include:

- **<toc>**: Used to define elements in the Table of Contents. Attributes include:
  - container-level: Defines the element the table of contents is used for. In-use values include "legis-body-container", "quoted-block-container", "subtitle-container", "chapter-container", "subchapter-container", "part-container", and "subpart-container".
  - lowest-bolded-level: Defines the level in which bolded text should be used. Currently, the only in-use value is "division-lowest-bolded".
  - lowest-level: Indicates the lowest level of text used in a table of contents. Currently, the only in-use values are "section" and "title".
  - quoted-block: Determines whether or not quoted blocks are used in the table of contents. The value can be either "yes-quoted-block" or "no-quoted-block".
  - regeneration: Denotes whether or not the table of contents allows for regeneration. The value can be either "yes-regeneration" or "no-regeneration".

- **<toc-entry>**: Element under <toc> that’s used to define specific entries in a table of contents. Attributes include idref and level.

- **<multi-column-toc-entry>**: Used to define the contents of multi-column table of content entries. Attributes can include bold and level.

- **<toc-enum>**: Identifies Table of Contents enumerators.

- **<level-header>**: Used to identify headers under <multi-column-toc-entry>. Attributes include level and bold, which denotes whether or not the printed text is bolded. The value can be either "yes" or "no".

- **<target>**: Element under <multi-column-toc-entry> that defines items in the last column of Table of Contents.

- **<toc-quoted-**}: Contains Table of Content entries (<toc-entry>) and uses the style attribute. For example:
Table Elements

Some legislative documents contain tables, which are used to organize data into an easier to read form. For example:

```xml
<table align-to-level="section" blank-lines-before="1" colsep="0" frame="topbot" line-rules="no-gen" rowsep="0" rule-weights="4.0.4.0.0.0" subformat="S6211" table-type="3-Generic:-l-text,-l-num,-l-text">
  <ttitle>Schedule B</ttitle>
  <tdesc>Long-term Schedule B contingent capacity and associated firm energy for offers of contracts to Boulder Canyon project contractors</tdesc>
  <tgroup cols="3" grid-typeface="1.1" rowsep="0">
    <colspec coldef="txt" colname="col1" colsep="1" colwidth="129pts" min-data-value="125" rowsep="0"/>
    <colspec coldef="fig" colname="col2" colsep="1" colwidth="56pts" min-data-value="10"/>
    <colspec coldef="txt-no-ldr" colname="col3" colsep="0" colwidth="129pts" min-data-value="125" rowsep="0"/>
  </tgroup>
  <tbody>
    <row>
      <entry align="left" colname="col1" leader-modify="force-ldr" rowsep="0" stub-definition="txt-1dr" stub-hierarchy="1">After such enactment date</entry>
      <entry align="right" colname="col2" leader-modify="force-ldr" rowsep="0">zero</entry>
      <entry align="left" colname="col3" leader-modify="clr-ldr" rowsep="0">zero</entry>
    </row>
  </tbody>
</table>
```

Like the text hierarchy elements, table elements are organized into a specific order. They include:

- `<table>` Defines the properties of the table. Attributes include `align-to-level`, `blank-lines-before`, `colsep`, `frame`, `line-rules`, `rowsep`, `rule-weights`, `table-template-name`, `table-type`.
- `<tdesc>` Identifies descriptions of tables.
- `<tttitle>` Identifies the title of a table.
- `<tgroup>` Identifies a group in a table and uses the `cols` (number of columns in the table, must be greater than zero) and `rowsep` (0 or 1 value denoting the presence or absence of separator lines, 0 = no separator lines, 1 = visible separator lines) attributes to define the separator properties.
- `<tbody>` “Table body,” container element for other table details (`<row>` and `<entry>` elements).
- `<colspec>` “Column specification,” used to establish settings and sizes in tables.
- `<thead>` Container element that defines the table headers. For example:
If taxable income is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The tax is:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Used to contain table entries.**

**Used to define the properties of a table. Attributes include:**

- **align**: States the kind of alignment. In-use values include "left", "right", and "center".

- **colname**: Defines the name of the current column.

- **colsep**: Short for "column separation." Either a "yes" or "no" value.

- **morerows**: Appears to be only used in single row entries, so "0" is the only used value.

- **nameend**: Short for "ending name." Defines the name of the last column in the table.

- **namest**: Short for "starting name." Defines the name of the first column in the table (this is generally identical to colname).

- **rowsep**: Short for "row separation." Either a "yes" or "no" value.

- **valign**: Short for "vertical align." Value can be "top", "middle", or "bottom".

**Other Organizational Elements**

**Text that belongs to a hierarchical level above an intervening sublevel.** In the example below, the `<paragraph>` element includes `<subparagraph>` elements followed by a return to paragraph-level text within the `<continuation-text>` element:

```
<paragraph id="H717619BF645445278CDF00A75172E376">
  <enum>(2)</enum>
  <header>Hostilities</header>
  <text>The term<term>hostilities</term>includes a situation where overt acts of warfare are taking place, such as—</text>
  <subparagraph id="H2954FDFB873946218D2F52F3E7663F36">
    <enum>(A)</enum>
    <text>the exchange of fire between regular or irregular military forces, or</text>
  </subparagraph>
  <subparagraph id="H4E9C41AC28846D29FFFC57AC2BAA4F9">
    <enum>(B)</enum>
    <text>the aerial or naval bombardment of military or civilian targets by regular or irregular military forces,</text>
  </subparagraph>
</paragraph>
```

**As shown in the text hierarchy, this identifies enumerators for the hierarchical levels of text (such as subsections and paragraphs).**

**Used to tag headers throughout legislative documents.** For example:
<header>Submission to Congress</header>

<subheader>Used to tag subheaders throughout legislative documents. Subheaders always come after headers. For example:</subheader>

<header display-inline="yes-display-inline">other federal drug control programs</header><subheader>(including transfers of funds)</subheader>

<text>Element that identifies any kind of text that cannot be categorized as a specific level. Sometimes uses the display-inline element. For example:

<text display-inline="yes-display-inline">That Congress recognizes the centennial of the State of Arizona.</text>

<header-in-text>Used to tag headers within text of legislation. Attributes include level and style. For example:

<text display-inline="yes-display-inline">in the second undesignated paragraph, by striking &lt;quote&gt;In like manner&lt;/quote&gt; and inserting &lt;quote&gt;(b) &lt;/quote&gt;</text>

<header-in-text level="subsection" style="OLC">Additional disclaimer or dedication</header-in-text>. In the manner set forth in subsection (a),&lt;/quote&gt;.&lt;/text&gt;

<List>Used to define lists. Attributes can include list-type, which is always defined as "none", and level, which can be "paragraph", "subparagraph", "section", or "subsection". For example:

<list list-type="none">Fiscal year 2011: $1,453,000,000,000.&lt;/list-item&gt;
Fiscal year 2012: $874,000,000,000.&lt;/list-item&gt;
Fiscal year 2013: $545,000,000,000.&lt;/list-item&gt;
Fiscal year 2014: $325,000,000,000.&lt;/list-item&gt;
Fiscal year 2015: $280,000,000,000.&lt;/list-item&gt;
Fiscal year 2016: $295,000,000,000.&lt;/list-item&gt;
Fiscal year 2017: $179,000,000,000.&lt;/list-item&gt;
</list>

<List-item>Element used to tag individual items under the &lt;list&gt; element.

Display/Authoring Elements

Some of the elements do not define specific content, but specify how text will look in print. Others are vestiges of XML authoring software that appear to have no public significance. Such elements include:

<appropriations-major> The &lt;appropriations-major&gt; element is only used for large headers in appropriations bills. The "major" suffix indicates that the header font should be larger than that of &lt;appropriations-intermediate&gt; and &lt;appropriations-small&gt;. For example:

<appropriations-major commented="no" id="HC01D6666541049D684A272D7947D3940" display-inline="yes-display-inline">Other Department of Defense Programs</appropriations-major>

<appropriations-intermediate> The &lt;appropriations-intermediate&gt; element is used to contain text detailing the recipients of appropriated funds. The "intermediate" suffix indicates that the header font should be smaller than that of &lt;appropriations-major&gt; and larger than that of &lt;appropriations-small&gt;. For example:

<appropriations-intermediate commented="no" id="H9E78465F5B084C8DA0770BDEBF7270C" display-inline="yes-display-inline">United States Institute of Peace</appropriations-intermediate>
For necessary expenses of the United States Institute of Peace, as authorized by the United States Institute of Peace Act, $30,589,000, to remain available until September 30, 2013, which shall not be used for construction activities.

The small appropriations element is used to contain paragraphs and provisos detailing the recipients of appropriated funds. The “-small” suffix indicates that the header font should be smaller than both <appropriations-major> and <appropriations-intermediate>. For example:

For fees and expenses of jurors as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 1871 and 1876; compensation of jury commissioners as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 1863; and compensation of commissioners appointed in condemnation cases pursuant to rule 71.1(h) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (28 U.S.C. Appendix Rule 71.1(h)), $51,908,000, to remain available until expended:

Provided, That the compensation of land commissioners shall not exceed the daily equivalent of the highest rate payable under 5 U.S.C. 5332.

Denotes a bolded word, term, or section of text. For example:

Defense Agencies: Outside the United States

Used to denote that a fractional number should be displayed inline. It would direct a parser to print 3/4 as ¾. For example:

1/53

The purpose of this tag is unclear. This is an empty tag in that it is included within blocks of text, does not have a closing tag, and contains no printed text. Examples include:

20.2 percent of all households with children in the United States experienced food insecurity at some point during the year; and

Prohibition on use of sodium cyanide for predator control

Identifies enumerators under the <header> element so they can be formatted properly in print. Header enumerators can include numbers, letters, parentheticals, and abbreviations For example:

Policy on means-tested welfare programs

This prints as the following:

POLICY ON MEANS-TESTED WELFARE PROGRAMS

Denotes italicized text. This is most frequently used under the <proviso> element to signify that "Provided" and "Provided further" are italicized when printed, but it is occasionally used to signify italicization elsewhere in a document.
<linebreak/>
Element that signifies a line break. <linebreak/> is an empty tag in that it has no closing tag and contains no parsable information.

<pagebreak/>
Empty tag used to force a page break in the printed text.

<quote>
Used to identify a quoted line of text. For example:

<whereas><text>Whereas according to article I, section 8, of the United States Constitution, <quote>The Congress shall have Power To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water</quote>; and</text></whereas>

<br/>

<subscript>,
<superscript>
Used to define subscripted and superscripted characters. For example:

<subscript>2.5</subscript>

<br/>

<added-phrase>
Used for minor additions of text not including amendments. This seems to be used when legislative language is recycled. For example:

<br/>

<deleted-phrase>
Used for minor deletions of text not including amendments.

<br/>

<quoted-block>
Defined in the House XML guide located at http://xml.house.gov/quoted-block.html as "Textual matter used to amend current law. Quoted block is so named because it is printed or displayed with quotation marks in front of each structural and non-structural level. (These quotation marks are generated for print or display; they are not part of the data.) The name "quoted block" is not meant to imply that the words within this element exist somewhere else and are being quoted. Rather, they signify text to be used to amend current law." Attributes can include id, style, and display-in-line, which can be valued at either "yes-display-in-line" or "no-display-in-line". For example:

<br/>

<quoted-block-continuation-text>Element used within a <quoted-block> (and before <after-quoted-block>) reference to denote a text level typically hierarchically higher than the level the text is contained in. This changes the indentation stylizing in the printed version of the bill. This element uses the attribute quoted-block-continuation-text-level to denote the text level. For example:

<br/>
the value of the benefits under the plan (or coverage) based on participation (or lack of participation) in a standards-based wellness program.

Nominal/Descriptive Elements

House XML currently has some elements that identify meaningful references, terms, and concepts.

Cross-References

The `<external-xref>` element is used to cross-reference legislative, regulatory, and treaty materials external to the document. For example:

```
<external-xref legal-doc="usc" parsable-cite="usc/42/11411">42 U.S.C. 11411</external-xref>
```

- **legal-doc** This attribute labels the type of document being tagged. Accepted values include:
  - "act" An act is the primary means of proposing a law in the House.
  - "bill" A bill is the primary means of proposing a law in the Senate.
  - "executive-order" An executive order is a directive from the president, usually addressed to cabinet agencies.
  - "public-law" A public law is a bill or resolution that has been passed and signed into law.
  - "regulation" The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) is a codification of regulations issued by federal agencies.
  - "senate-rule" The Standing Rules of the Senate are a series of forty-four rules dictating Senate procedures.
  - "statute-at-large" The Statutes at Large is a serial compilation of laws Congress has passed.
  - "treaty-tias" Treaties and Other International Acts Series is a compilation of treaties and international legal agreements to which the United States is a party.
  - "treaty-ust" A U.S. treaty is a specific agreement between the United States and foreign states or organizations.
  - "usc" The U.S. Code is the official compilation of all permanent federal laws.
  - "usc-act" This is used to cite an act appearing in the U.S. Code by popular name.
  - "usc-appendix" This reference is used to cite a specific appendix in the U.S. Code.
  - "usc-chapter" This reference is used to cite a specific chapter of the U.S. Code.
  - "usc-subtitle" This reference is used to cite a specific subtitle in the U.S. Code.

- **parsable-cite** This attribute defines the type of document with an abbreviated identifier followed by two numbers that make up a citation appropriate to the type of document, formatted as `parsable-cite="[legal-doc]/[first #]/[second #]"`. Numbering systems for each legal-doc, followed by an example of their use, are as follows:

```
public-law pl/[Congress#]/[law #]
```
The rest of the documented legal-doc types – act, bill, executive-order, senate-rule, statute-at-large, treaty-tias, treaty-ust, usc-appendix – are not used.

The <internal-xref> element is used to reference another part of the current document. For example:

```xml
<internal-xref idref="HB246BD9FEEB241C9965716920071EB73" legis-path="202.(a)(1)(A)"/> subparagraph (A)</internal-xref>
```

**idref** This attribute is a URI that matches the unique ID of another part of the document. In this case, the reference <subparagraph id="HB246BD9FEEB241C9965716920071EB73">refers to a subparagraph (A) elsewhere in the document.

**legis-path** This attribute lists the section, subsection, paragraph, and/or subparagraph to which the internal-xref refers.

**Acts**

In addition to <external-xref>, House XML sometimes uses a separate system for identifying existing acts of Congress. <act-name> is the element that tags prior law using popular and famous names. For example:

```xml
<act-name parsable-cite="ESA">Endangered Species Act of 1973</act-name>
```

The parsable-cite attribute identifies an abbreviation for the act. See the table in Appendix 2 for full list of parsable-cite values.

**Other Descriptive Elements**

- **<constitution-article>** Container element used for constitutional amendments. The only attribute is id, whose value always starts with "H" and is followed by either "1234" or a series of 32 numbers or letters.

- **<rules-clause>** Occasionally House Rules are amended in resolutions, which use a series of hierarchical "rules" elements. These are always structured within a <quoted-block> element and are ordered: <rules-clause>, <rules-clause-header>, <rules-paragraph>, <rules-subparagraph>, <rules-subdivision>, and <rules-item>.

- **<calendar>** An infrequently used element that tags references to legislative calendars (e.g. "Union Calendar"
No. 439”). For example:

```xml
<calendar display="yes">Union Calendar No. 439</calendar>
```

The `display` attribute determines if the information will appear in the printed version of the document.

```xml
<preamble>
Container element for "whereas" statements in resolutions.
</preamble>
```

```xml
<whereas>
Used to identify the individual "whereas" clauses in a resolution. Typically, this is followed by a <text> element. For example:

```xml
<whereas>
<text>Whereas, on November 17, 2008, Hungary joined the Visa Waiver Program;</text>
</whereas>
```

```xml
<proviso>
Used to tag "Provided" and "Provided further" provisos. This is typically followed by the <italic> tag. For example:

```xml
<proviso>
<italic>Provided further</italic>
</proviso>
```

```xml
<term>
Many terms are tagged with the <term> element. This is a generic identifier, and it can be used to tag anything from "CBO" to "terrorism" to "aboriginal, indigenous, native people." The purpose of this is evidently to create a collection of terms within a document that give a general idea of what the bill, resolution, or amendment is about. Typically, information tagged by the <term> element is followed by a description of the term. For example:

```xml
<text>The term <term>patent infringement claim</term> means any allegation made to an ANDA filer, whether or not included in a complaint filed with a court of law, that its ANDA or drug to be manufactured under such ANDA may infringe any patent.</text>
```
```

### Frequently Used Attributes

Because attributes can share names and values across different elements, many House XML elements share attributes and some have identically defined sets of values. Some of the most frequently used attributes include:

- **style**
  This attribute is typically used in structural elements to define the style of the particular document. Values are predefined and include: "defense", "OLC", "tax", "traditional", "USC", "appropriations", and "constitutional-amendment". These dictate the formatting of a particular document or section, such as display issues, text and enumerator generation, and indentations.

  ```xml
  <title id="H55E1C3037E9948A1A5E8B1D3DC6451C6" style="appropriations">
  <text>This attribute is used by <division>, <title>, <subtitle>, <part>, <header-in-text>, <legis-body>, <quoted-block>, <resolution-body>, and <toc-quoted-entry> elements.</text>
  </title>
  ```

- **id** and **idref**
  These attributes are used to uniquely identify specific elements by defining a URI so it can be referenced within the document management system. For example:

  ```xml
  <section id="HAEAC836C266149659DB66C0FC9D821AD">
  <text>This attribute is used by <appropriations-small>, <appropriations-intermediate>, <appropriations-major>, <chapter>, <clause>, <constitution-article>, <division>, <internal-xref>, <item>, <legis-body>, <paragraph>, <part>, <quoted-block>, <resolution-body>, <rules-clause>, <rules-item>, <rules-
  ```
Cato XML

Cato XML is a developing set of standards for public documents that expands on the established set of House XML elements. It uses the current set of House XML identifiers (both used and unused) and introduces new elements to identify things frequently referred to in legislative documents. The new and expanded elements cover:

- Organizational units of government (generally federal agencies, bureaus, programs, and projects);
- Existing law;
- Senate and House committees and subcommittees;
- Federal elective officeholders;
- Authorizing language, regulations, and budget authorities (both authorizations of appropriations and appropriations).

They may be extended to cover:

- Regulations and regulatory documents;
- Locations;
- Non-federal governments;
- Dates, times, and durations;
- and so on.

In the future, the standards may be used to mark up other government documents, including:

- Transcripts;
- Committee reports;
- Regulations and regulatory documents;
- Inter- and intra-branch communications;
- and so on.

Including more elements and attributes from a standardized XML vocabulary will make more available the specific content of these documents, and it will create much needed links among actors and entities in government processes. The end-result we hope for is better computer-aided oversight of government (both internal and external) and a more transparent government.

Cato Namespace

To differentiate Cato XML from House XML, all Cato XML documents include a namespace declaration in the root element and include the cato: prefix in Cato XML elements. The Cato namespace helps external developers and XML analysts know which elements have what provenance. For example:

```xml
<bill xmlns:cato="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml" bill-stage="Introduced-in-House" bill-type="olc" dms-id="HEC9B27C65C814B5EA33B456D6807413B" public-private="public">
...
```
Lands may be leased pursuant to this subtitle to any person qualified to obtain a lease for deposits of oil and gas under the <cato:entity entity-type="law-citation">Mineral Leasing Act</cato:entity> (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.).

As previously mentioned, Cato XML can use any method for declaring namespaces. The above example declares the namespace in the root element <bill> and uses the cato: prefix to denote Cato XML elements.

The <entity-ref>, <entity>, and <property> Elements

One of the most integral Cato XML elements is <entity-ref>. This element is used to identify references to things not in the document, including federal organizational units (executive branch agencies, bureaus, and so on, as well as organizational units in the legislative and judicial branches), federal elective officeholders, legal citations, and other things frequently referenced in government documents. The <entity-ref> element is formatted as follows:

```xml
<entity-ref entity-type="[entity-type]" entity-id="XXX-XX">entity text</entity-ref>
```

For example:

```xml
The Departments of Justice<entity-ref entity-type="federal-body" entity-id="1500">Justice</entity-ref>, Treasury<entity-ref entity-type="federal-body" entity-id="2000">Treasury</entity-ref>, and Homeland Security<entity-ref entity-type="federal-body" entity-id="7000">Homeland Security</entity-ref> are the agencies with the greatest capacity to investigate, prosecute and dismantle the highest level of drug trafficking organizations. Low-level drug offender investigations and prosecutions divert Federal personnel and resources from prosecuting high-level traffickers.
```

Because <entity-ref> is used for a variety of things, the entity-type attribute identifies the type of entity being referred to. In the above examples, this is "federal-body", meaning a federal government body. The entity-id is a unique identifier that ties the reference to a specific federal government body in the federal-body lookup table. While "Treasury" is not the official name of the agency, the entity-id of "1500" allows any XML parsing software to correlate the term to its official name—in this case, the Department of the Treasury. All Cato XML references with unique identifiers are defined in lookup tables, which are discussed in greater detail below.

The purposes of the general <entity-ref> element – versus creating unique and compartmentalized elements for each entity type – are to:

- Simplify the tagging process by putting all "things" under one frequently used element
- Uniquely identify entities through cross-referenced attributes
- Allow for convenient data updating in the referenced lookup tables
- Make it easier for developers to include all of the new identifiers in their XML software
- Keep references generic so they can be used more easily by external authors of non-Cato XML documents

The <entity> element is used to identify things in the document itself, such as parallel law citations and new exercises of federal authority.

Federal Organizational Units

One of the uses for this element is identifying federal organizational units such as agencies and bureaus. Agencies, bureaus, and programs are referenced countless times throughout legislative documents but are not delineated with XML in any way. In the example above, the Department of Justice, the Department of the Treasury, and the Department of Homeland Security are identified using the <entity-ref> element. Because the entity-type is valued as "federal-body", the software parsing or using the XML refers to the federal organizational unit lookup table. Thanks to the unique value assigned to its entity-id, the software can discover the specific entry in the table. In the above example, the numbers (1500, 2000, and 7000) are references to the agencies themselves.
frequently, legislative documents will mention offices or programs within agencies or bureaus that do not have a specific code. In these instances, the <entity-ref> element will use the attribute entity-parent-id to denote which unit it resides under. For example:

```
<text>The <cato:entity-ref entity-type="federal-body" entity-id="7529">Director of NIH</cato:entity-ref>, in coordination with the <cato:entity-ref entity-type="federal-body" entity-parent-id="7529">National Institute of Mental Health</cato:entity-ref>, the <cato:entity-ref entity-type="federal-body" entity-parent-id="7529">Office of Research on Women’s Health</cato:entity-ref>, and other institutes of the National Institutes of Health, shall identify the total amount of expenditures, both intramural and extramural, by the <cato:entity-ref entity-type="federal-body" entity-id="7529">National Institutes of Health</cato:entity-ref> for eating disorders for each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.</text>
```

while the National Institute of Mental Health and the Office of Research on Women’s Health do not have specific identifiers, we can gather from the information that these are programs under the National Institutes of Health, which has the entity-id value of 7529.

Committees and Subcommittees

Another use of the <entity-ref> element is identifying committees and subcommittees throughout legislative text. As previously mentioned, House XML already identifies committees in the procedural section of a document with <committee-name>, but references within legislative text have been left unidentified. Cato XML identifies these references using the <entity-ref> element. For example:

```
<text>For the purposes of this Act, the term <term>congressional defense committees</term> means the <cato:entity-ref entity-type="committee" entity-id="HAS00">Armed Services Committee of the House of Representatives</cato:entity-ref>, the <cato:entity-ref entity-type="committee" entity-id="SSAS00">Armed Services Committee of the Senate</cato:entity-ref>, the <cato:entity-ref entity-type="committee" entity-id="SSAP02">Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate</cato:entity-ref>, and the <cato:entity-ref entity-type="committee" entity-id="HAP02">Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives</cato:entity-ref>.</text>
```

As seen, committee references give the entity-type attribute the value "committee" and the entity-id attribute as its official committee code (described earlier on page 9 for <committee-name>). All full committee IDs begin with their official committee identifier followed by 00. Subcommittees IDs begin with their parent committee’s identifier followed by their unique two-digit number documented by the House and Senate. For committee and subcommittee codes, see Appendix 1.

Federal Elective Officeholders

The <entity-ref> element is also used to identify elected officials mentioned in text. While officials are identified in the procedural section using the <sponsor> and <cosponsor> elements, references within legislative text are not identified. Cato XML identifies these references using the <entity-ref> element. For example:

```
<text>Whereas <cato:entity-ref entity-type="person" entity-id="B000243">Senator Baucus</cato:entity-ref>, in a Senate Finance Committee hearing he chaired on March 9, 2011, with Ambassador Kirk as the sole witness, said that<quote>_ the time has passed to ratify the Colombian free trade agreement. It's long past. I mentioned in my opening remarks, we're losing market share hand over fist. Hand over fist, we're losing market share … . This is a no-brainer, Mr. Ambassador, no-brainer, and I just hope we get this passed quickly</quote>;</text>
```
As seen, elected officials references value the entity-type attribute as "person" and the entity-id attribute as the official's Congressional Bioguide identifier (described earlier on page 8). Non-elected officials do not currently have unique identifiers and cannot be identified at this time.

Existing Law and Parallel Law Citations

The <entity-ref> element is also used to identify references to existing laws. In most bills and resolutions, most references to existing laws first use a commonly cited popular name, followed by its Public Law number, a Statutes at Large citation, or a U.S. Code citation. This is called a parallel citation, as the popular name and the U.S. code citation refer to the same thing. For example:

<text>The withdrawal, limitation, or suspension of United States security assistance in accordance with section 502B of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304).</text>

In Cato XML, these are identified by marking up each component individually with the <entity-ref> identifier and grouping together the references as a single entity with a container element <entity>. Such text is marked up as follows:


The <entity> element – as it is used in this instance – creates the parallel citation. The attribute law-citation signals that the child <entity-ref> elements each point to the same thing. All popular act names, Public Law numbers, Statutes-at-Large citations, and U.S. Code citations are then labeled with the entity-type that corresponds to the type of citation to existing law they are.

The <entity-ref> element uses two attributes for law citations, entity-type and entity-value. The entity-type attribute signifies what type of reference to existing law it is. It can have one of the following values:

"act" The popular name for an act. When entity-type="act", the entity-value attribute is assigned with a normalized title of the act. This is generally the most common name assigned to the act by the House of Representatives. A list of these names can be found at http://uscode.house.gov/popularnames/popularnames.htm.

Popular names are typically preceded by a reference to a section number (but they can also be preceded by a reference to any text level, multiple text levels, or nothing at all). In such instances, the reference shall be included in the <property> text node as well as the value attribute. For example:


In this example, "section 402" also includes references to subsection b and paragraph 2 (these are expressed in the parentheticals after the section reference). To denote what text levels are expressed in the text node, prefixes are added to the segments of the entity-value. These are always ordered from highest to lowest, and may vary from act to act. Text level prefixes include:

Division: d:
Subtitle: st:
Part: pt:
Title: t:
Subchapter: sch:
Chapter: ch:
Subsection: ss:
Section: s:
Subparagraph: sp:
Paragraph: p:
Clause: cl:
Subclause: scl:
Item: i:
"uscode" Machine-readable U.S. Code citation. When entity-type="uscode", the value attribute uses the equivalent of the parsable-cite attribute from House XML's <external-xref>. For example:

<cat:entity-ref entity-type="uscode" entity-value="usc/20/9202">20 U.S.C. 9202</cat:entity-ref>

Specific U.S. Code chapters and appendix references are cited similarly to their <external-xref> counterparts. Examples include:

<cat:entity-ref entity-type="uscode" entity-value="usc/chapter/38/17">chapter 17 of title 38</cat:entity-ref>
<cat:entity-ref entity-type="uscode" entity-value="usc/app/50/533">50 U.S.C. App. 533</cat:entity-ref>

If a U.S. Code citation includes additional text levels (such as subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs, and clauses), additional slashes (beyond those used in House XML) denote the extended citation. For example:

<cat:entity-ref entity-type="uscode" entity-value="usc/8/1612/b/2">8 U.S.C. 1612(b)(2)</cat:entity-ref>

U.S. Code citations with either “note” or “et. seq.” are also included as an extended citation value. Examples include:

<cat:entity-ref entity-type="uscode" entity-value="usc/8/1103/note">8 U.S.C. 1103 note</cat:entity-ref>
<cat:entity-ref entity-type="uscode" entity-value="usc/50/541/etseq">50 U.S.C. 541 et seq.</cat:entity-ref>

If a U.S. Code citation has a double slash (or empty level), it means that a hierarchical text level has been skipped. In the following example, the paragraph level comes immediately after the section level, which would usually be followed by a subsection:

<cat:entity-ref entity-type="uscode" entity-value="usc/5/601//2">Paragraph (2) of section 601 of title 5, United States Code</cat:entity-ref>

When either "act" or "uscode" wrap a text node featuring a string of multiple text level references, a series of commas may be used to capture the all of the references. Examples include:

<cat:entity-ref entity-type="act" entity-value="Social Security Act/s:1307/ss:c:p:2,3,4,5">paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5) of such section 1308(c)</cat:entity-ref>
<cat:entity-ref entity-type="uscode" entity-value="usc/23/104/b/1,3,4">paragraphs (1), (3), and (4) of section 104(b) of title 23, United States Code</cat:entity-ref>

Additionally, wherever “through” is used to describe a range of references, two periods may be used to express this range. Examples include:

<cat:entity-ref entity-type="act" value="Internal Revenue Code of 1986/s:6103..6116">Sections 6103 through 6116</cat:entity-ref>
<cat:entity-ref entity-type="uscode" value="usc/28/1330..1601">Sections 1330 and 1601 through 1611 of title 28, United States Code</cat:entity-ref>
Machine-readable public law citation. Similar to "uscode", when name="public-law", the value attribute will use the same citation as Public Laws under <external-xref>. For example:

<catoward-entity-ref entity-type="public-law" entity-value="pl/111/148">Public Law 111–148</catoward-entity-ref>

Sections, subsections, and other hierarchical levels of text are expressed with the same prefixes as "act" citations.

Machine-readable citation to Statutes at Large. When entity-type="statute-at-large", the value attribute will use a similar, normalized citation method as "public-law" and "usc". In this case, the citation for value will be formatted entity-value="stat/[volume#]/[page#]". For example:

<catoward-entity-ref entity-type="statute-at-large" entity-value="stat/64/568">64 Stat. 568</catoward-entity-ref>

The act, uscode, public-law, and statute-at-large entity types do not use the entity-id attribute for two reasons: there are no universally agree upon identifiers for these references, and different references may have different values because they refer to existing law differently or in different sources.

If either of the House XML elements <act-name> or <external-xref> has been applied to a law citation, the <entity-ref> element is not applied to the law citation tagged with House XML, though it and parallel law citations are wrapped as such in the <entity> tag. To illustrate, text that looks like the following in House XML:

<text>The term <term>Smart Grid</term>has the meaning provided by section 1301 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (<external-xref legal-doc="usc" parsable-cite="usc/42/17381">42 U.S.C. 17381</external-xref></text>

Would look like the following in Cato XML:


Note how in Cato XML the xmlns="" attribute has been added to <external-xref> to nullify the namespace properties of the <entity> element. Likewise, wherever <act-name> is already used by House XML, <entity-ref> identifies the parallel citation.

Proposed Laws and Citations

Frequently, legislative documents will mention act names and legal citations (most frequently amendments and additions) that have yet to be enacted into law. For example:

<text display-inline="yes-display-inline">The Administrator shall establish an abbreviated application process for applicants that are managers of small business investment companies that are licensed under section 301 and that are applying to participate in the program. Such abbreviated process shall incorporate a presumption that such managers satisfactorily meet the selection criteria under paragraphs (3) and (5) of section 399D(b).</text>

In this block of text, the references to "paragraphs (3) and (5) of section 399D(b)" are references to paragraphs and sections in a proposed amendment. To delineate these references from existing law, Cato XML uses the attribute

---

1 The name of the resource is Statutes at Large, plural, but House XML uses statute-at-large, singular. Cato XML follows House XML to simplify.
proposed (with the possible value of "true") to indicate that the reference does not yet exist as a popular name, public law, Statute at Large, or U.S. Code citation. This example would be marked up as follows:

```
<text display-inline="yes-display-inline">The Administrator shall establish an abbreviated application process for applicants that are managers of small business investment companies that are licensed under section 301 and that are applying to participate in the program. Such abbreviated process shall incorporate a presumption that such managers satisfactorily meet the selection criteria under <cato:entity-ref entity-type="act" proposed="true" value="Small Business Investment Act of 1958/s:399D/ss:b/p:3">paragraphs (3)</cato:entity-ref> and <cato:entity-ref entity-type="act" proposed="true" value="Small Business Investment Act of 1958/s:399D/ss:b/p:5">(5) of section 399D(b)</cato:entity-ref>.</text>
```

**New Authority**

Along with amending existing exercises of authority (a very difficult challenge to render as data), a purpose of legislation is to exercise new congressional authority. Cato XML begins to represent new exercises of authority in at least a “thin” way.

The `<entity>` element is used to define new authority entities in Cato XML documents. The `entity-type` attributes are `auth-auth-approp` and `auth-approp`, reflecting the four types of authority:

- **"auth-auth-approp"** Budget authorities: **authorizations of appropriations** are exercises of congressional authority that authorize the enactment of appropriations for an agency or program. This language typically calls for chunks of funds to be spent in a given fiscal year (or years) for a given agency, bureau, or office. For example:

  ```
  <text display-inline="no-display-inline">Funds are hereby authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2012 for expenses, not otherwise provided for, for Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense-wide, in the amount of $1,156,282,000.</text>
  ```

  Authorizations of appropriations use the `entity-type` value of "auth-auth-approp". The above text would be marked up as follows:

  ```
  <text display-inline="no-display-inline"><cato:entity entity-type="auth-auth-approp">Funds are hereby authorized to be appropriated for the <cato:entity-ref entity-type="federal-body" entity-id="9700">Department of Defense</cato:entity-ref> for fiscal year 2012 <cato:property name="purpose">for expenses, not otherwise provided for, for Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense-wide</cato:property>, in the amount of <cato:funds-and-year amount="1156282000" year="2012">$1,156,282,000</cato:funds-and-year>.</cato:entity></text>
  ```

- **"auth-approp"** Budget authorities: **appropriations** consist of language that directs the obligation and outlay of funds (previously authorized) for specific offices and purposes. This language is typically more specific than that of authorizations of appropriations and frequently mentions specific projects. For example:

  ```
  <text>For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Air Force, as authorized by law; and not to exceed $7,699,000 can be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended on the approval or authority of the Secretary of the Air Force, and payments may be made on his certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes, $36,062,989,000.</text>
  ```

  Appropriations use the `entity-type` value of "auth-approp". The above text would be
For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Air Force, as authorized by law; and not to exceed $7,699,000 can be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended on the approval or authority of the Secretary of the Air Force, and payments may be made on his certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes.

There are three types of authorities that will be added to the Cato XML vocabulary in the near future: authorization, regulation, and interpretation:

**"auth-authorization"**

Authorities consist of language that creates organs of government or defines the powers and functions of existing organs of government. Authorization language typically consists of defining what an agency, bureau, or government office "shall" do. For example:

> The Attorney General shall ensure that the amendment made by paragraph (1) is implemented by not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Authorities use the entity-type value of "auth-authorization". The above text would be marked up as follows:

```
<text><cato:entity entity-type="auth-authorization">The Attorney General shall ensure that the amendment made by paragraph (1) is implemented by not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.</cato:entity></text>
```

**"auth-regulation"**

Regulations consist of language that directs subjects of federal authority to act or refrain from acting in particular ways. This can include civilians, state governments, and private businesses. For example:

> Any employer who willfully violates the posting requirements of this section shall be subject to a civil fine in an amount not to exceed $100 for each separate offense.

Regulations use the entity-type value of "auth-regulation". The above text would be marked up as follows:

```
<text display:inline="yes" display-inline="yes">Any employer who willfully violates the posting requirements of this section shall be subject to a civil fine in an amount not to exceed $100 for each separate offense.</cato:entity></text>
```

**"auth-interpretation"**

Interpretations specify the interpretation of certain legislative language. This can include exceptions, inclusions, or anything that would specify how legislative language gets applied in practice. For example:

> The list of commodities developed under paragraph (1) shall not be interpreted to be a comprehensive list of commodities that do not qualify as nondivisible loads.

Interpretations use the entity-type value of "auth-interpretation". The above text would be marked up as follows:

```
<text>\The list of commodities developed under paragraph (1) shall not be interpreted to be a comprehensive list of commodities that do not qualify as nondivisible loads.</cato:entity></text>
```
The list of commodities developed under paragraph (1) shall not be interpreted to be a comprehensive list of commodities that do not qualify as nondivisible loads.

Budget Authority Properties

Budget authorities (both authorizations of appropriations and appropriations) have unique elements that define their properties. These elements are:

- **Property name=“purpose”**
  
  This captures the text node detailing the purpose of the authorization or appropriation. If no value attribute is provided, the value is assumed to be the text node. For example:

  For an additional amount for Systems Acquisition, $3,869,000, to remain available until September 30, 2014: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

- **Property name=“funds-source”**
  
  This is used to capture the source of the appropriated funds. If omitted, it is assumed to be the U.S. Treasury, but occasionally it can be a trust fund or some other source. If no value attribute is provided, the value is assumed to be the text node. For example:

  For expenses necessary for the Armed Forces Retirement Home to operate and maintain the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulfport, Mississippi, to be paid from funds available in the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund, $67,700,000, of which $2,000,000 shall remain available until expended for construction and renovation of the physical plants at the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulfport, Mississippi.

- **Property name=“funds-and-year”**
  
  Captures the U.S. dollar value of an appropriated amount as well as the year or years in which the funds are available. For example:

  For an additional amount for Construction for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy, $49,875,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Unlike “fund-source” and “purpose”, <funds-and-year> does not use the <property> element. This is because one <entity> authorization may have multiple appropriations for multiple years.

Attributes for <funds-and-year> include:

- **amount**
  
  The amount appropriated or authorized to be appropriated for the stated time period. This can be valued in either U.S. dollars (such as "$200000000") or as "indefinite".
The fiscal year or years in which the dollar amount is relevant. There are multiple ways years are denoted in text and thus must be expressed accordingly:

- **Four-digit integer**, such as "2013". This means the dollar amount is appropriated once and just for one fiscal year. For example:

  `<text><cato:entity xmlns:cato="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml" entity-type="auth-auth-approp">Funds are hereby authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2013 to the Department of Defense for military personnel accounts in the total amount of <cato:funds-and-year amount="1111324000" year="2013">$11,111,324,000</cato:funds-and-year>.</cato:entity></text>`

- **List of integers**, such as "2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016". This means that the dollar amount is re-appropriated for multiple fiscal years. For example:


- **Two four-digit integers join by two periods**, such as "2012..2022". This means the dollar amount is appropriated once and is authorized to be spent over a series of years. So in the following example, $1,000,000 is authorized to be available starting in 2012 and ending in 2022:

  `<text><cato:entity xmlns:cato="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml" entity-type="auth-auth-approp">There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this subsection <cato:funds-and-year amount="1000000" year="2012..2022">$1,000,000 for fiscal years 2012 through 2022</cato:funds-and-year>.</cato:entity></text>`

- **Single four-digit integer followed by a comma and two periods**, such as "2012,..". This means the dollar amount is authorized to be appropriated for one fiscal year and will be re-appropriated at the beginning of every fiscal year for an indeterminate number of years. For example:

  `<text><cato:entity xmlns:cato="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml" entity-type="auth-auth-approp">For grants under this title, there are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary <cato:funds-and-year amount="300000000" year="2012,..">$300,000,000 for fiscal year 2012 and each succeeding fiscal year</cato:funds-and-year>.</cato:entity></text>`

- **Single four-digit integer followed by two periods**, such as "2012..". This means the dollars amount is authorized to be appropriated once and may be
spent until expended. For example:

    <text><cato:entity xmlns:cato="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml" entity-type="auth-auth-approp">There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, to remain available until expended, <cato:funds-and-year amount="1000000" year="2013..">$1,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2013</cato:funds-and-year>.

**Nothing**, or empty quotation marks: "". This indicates that no fiscal year is discernable from the text. For example:

    <text><cato:entity xmlns:cato="http://namespaces.cato.org/catoxml" entity-type="auth-auth-approp">There are authorized to be appropriated <cato:funds-and-year amount="indefinite" year=""">such sums as are necessary</cato:funds-and-year> to carry out this section.</cato:entity></text>

These elements must be contained within the `<entity>` element with the `entity-type` value of either "auth-approp" or "auth-auth-approp".

**Lookup Tables**

As noted above, whenever a Cato XML element has a unique identifier, the reference is tied to a lookup table. Lookup tables are XML formatted documents that assign uniform values to the various names an entity may go by. Each table identifies a different set of entity types, such as federal agencies and bureaus, elected officials, and committee and subcommittee names. Lookup table entries look like the following:

    <entity id="SSEG00">
        <name role="official">Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources</name>
        <name>Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee</name>
    </entity>

    <entity id="SSEG01" parent-id="SSEG00">
        <name role="official">Subcommittee on Energy</name>
        <name>Energy Subcommittee</name>
    </entity>

    <entity id="SSEG03" parent-id="SSEG00">
        <name role="official">Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests</name>
        <name>Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee</name>
    </entity>

In this example, the table entries cover a committee and two of its subcommittees. The attributes under `<entity>` tie all of its child elements (in this case, just `<name>`) to one value. While one entity (in this case, either a committee or subcommittee) may have multiple names in legislative documents, the varying names refer to one unique entity. The `<name>` element with the attribute `role="official"` denotes that it is the official name assigned to the entity, as distinct from colloquial names that may appear in government documents and in the table.

**The `<entity>` and `<entities>` Elements**

All lookup tables have a root element of `<entities>`. This has the required attribute of `type`, which denotes the content of the lookup table. This attribute also matches the `entity-type` value used in `<entity>` and `<entity-ref>` elements used throughout Cato XML documents. The `<entities>` element also has the required attribute `updated`, which details the last time and date the lookup table was updated. For example:

    <entities type="act" updated="2013-01-09T12:31:52">
The `<entities>` element can also use a `version` attribute. This is used when there may be multiple different versions of a type or entity-type. For example, agencies and bureaus, which use the `type` value "federal-body", can change over time, so multiple versions of a federal entities lookup table would be necessary to capture the entirety of the information.

The `<entity>` element is used for all unique listings in a lookup table. Attributes include `id`, which is the unique identifier for the individual listing and is required for all entries, and `parent-id`, which is only required when the entity is the child of another entity. In the committees lookup table, the `parent-id` is used to denote which committee is the parent entity to a subcommittee; in the federal entities lookup table, the `parent-id` is used to denote which agency or bureau the given entity resides under. For example:

```
<entity id="1100">
    <name role="official">Executive Office of the President</name>
</entity>
<entity id="1101" parent-id="1100">
    <name role="official">President of the United States</name>
</entity>
<entity id="1102" parent-id="1100">
    <name role="official">National Security Council</name>
</entity>
<entity id="1103" parent-id="1100">
    <name role="official">Office of Management and Budget</name>
    <abbr role="official">OMB</abbr>
</entity>
```

Under the `<entity>` element are the `<name>` and `<abbr>` elements. The `<name>` element is used for all full names of entities, while the `<abbr>` element is used for any abbreviations. Both of these elements use the `role` attribute, which explains the status of the given name or abbreviation. The `role` attribute is typically valued at either "official" (for the current name or abbreviation of the office) or "historical" (for any names or abbreviations a federal entity may have gone by in the past).
# Appendix

## Table 1: Committee and Subcommittee Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House XML ID</th>
<th>Official Committee ID</th>
<th>Committee Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HAG00</td>
<td>HAG00</td>
<td>Committee on Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAG03</td>
<td>Nutrition and Horticulture Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAG14</td>
<td>Rural Development, Research, Biotechnology, and Foreign Agriculture Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAG15</td>
<td>Conservation, Energy, and Forestry Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAG16</td>
<td>General Farm Commodities and Risk Management Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAG22</td>
<td>Department Operations, Oversight, and Credit Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAG29</td>
<td>Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP00</td>
<td>HAP00</td>
<td>Committee on Appropriations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAP01</td>
<td>Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAP02</td>
<td>Defense Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAP04</td>
<td>State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAP06</td>
<td>Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAP07</td>
<td>Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAP10</td>
<td>Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAP15</td>
<td>Homeland Security Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAP18</td>
<td>Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAP19</td>
<td>Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAP20</td>
<td>Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAP23</td>
<td>Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAP24</td>
<td>Legislative Branch Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAS00</td>
<td>HAS00</td>
<td>Committee on Armed Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAS02</td>
<td>Military Personnel Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAS03</td>
<td>Readiness Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAS06</td>
<td>Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAS25</td>
<td>Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAS26</td>
<td>Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAS28</td>
<td>Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HAS29</td>
<td>Strategic Forces Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HBA00</td>
<td>HBA00</td>
<td>Committee on Financial Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HBA04</td>
<td>Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HBA09</td>
<td>Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HBA15</td>
<td>Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HBA16</td>
<td>Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HBA19</td>
<td>Domestic Monetary Policy and Technology Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(none)</td>
<td>HBA20</td>
<td>International Monetary Policy and Trade Subcommittee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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* The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 is an amendment to the Food Stamp Act of 1977. The House XML looks like `<act-name parsable-cite="FSA77">Food and Nutrition Act of 2008</act-name>`

** The common abbreviation for the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 is GPRA. Regardless, the House XML looks like `<act-name parsable-cite="FPRA93">Government Performance and Results Act of 1993</act-name>`.  

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