Modernization of Congress

Business Meeting – 12/19/2019 AGENDA

Consideration of the following proposed recommendations:

- 1. Create a bipartisan Members-only space in the Capitol to encourage more collaboration across party lines.
- 2. Institute biennial bipartisan retreats for Members and their families at the start of each Congress.
- 3. Update committee policies to increase bipartisan learning opportunities for staff.
- 4. Establish bipartisan committee staff briefings and agenda-setting retreats to encourage better policy making and collaboration among Members.
- 5. Update House procedures to allow members to electronically add or remove their name as a bill cosponsor.
- 6. Require Members to undergo emergency preparedness training to ensure our government is fully prepared in the event of a crisis.
- 7. Identify ways the House and Senate can streamline purchases and save taxpayer dollars.
- 8. Encourage House-wide bulk purchasing of goods and services to cut back on waste and inefficiency.
- 9. Update travel expenditure policies to improve efficiencies, and boost accountability and transparency.
- 10. Consolidate the regulations governing Member office communications, including digital communications, into one easy to find place.
- 11. Rename the House Commission on Mailing Standards, also known as the Franking Commission, the House Communications Standards Commission to reflect 21st Century communications.
- 12. Increase opportunities for constituents to communicate with their Representatives.
- 13. Increase accountability and tracking for all Member-sponsored mail.
- 14. Allow for faster correspondence between Representatives and their constituents.
- 15. Update House social media rules to allow for better communication online between Members of Congress and their followers.
- 16. Allow the public to better access and view the types of communication sent by Members of Congress to their constituents.