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To: Matthew Schrader

From: Joel Rothstein, CEO, Markup LLC

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Subject: **Update on Markup Emergency Remote Voting System™**

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- **The Markup Emergency Remote Voting System™ (Markup ERVS™) is available for deployment in the U.S. House of Representatives & the U.S. Senate.**
- **Markup built the secure and accurate emergency remote voting capability on the Microsoft Office 365, Microsoft Teams, and Adobe Sign platforms.**
- **Markup is a Washington, DC based startup company (located on Capitol Hill) that is a certified partner of the Microsoft for Startups program and already provides House Information Resources (HIR) approved software to the U.S. House of Representatives built on the Microsoft Teams platform currently in use by the House.**

**Markup's Product for Emergency Remote Voting.**

**Markup ERVS™ can be easily adapted to any voting body – both government and private.** Due to the unique nature of the current crisis -and Markup's existing product in use in the U.S. House of Representatives-we built the first version with the U.S. House of Representatives in mind.

**Markup can adapt the product for any customer using Microsoft Teams in 72 hours. For customers not using Teams, Markup can ship browser only version in two weeks.**

Markup ERVS™ can be available to all Members who are absent from a vote in committee or on the House floor. To maximize simplicity and security, and to minimize delay and training, Markup ERVS™ uses existing, established tools: Microsoft Teams® and Adobe® PDF signatures.

On the floor, Markup ERVS™ is designed to deliver a secure, traceable, and auditable vote directly to the rostrum of the U.S. House of Representatives—analogue to when a Member forgets his/her voting card and records a manual vote at the desk. (In committee, the system delivers the votes to the Committee Chairperson or designated clerk.)

**For added security, the remote voting product is not connected to the House's existing electronic voting system.** The Clerk would add remote votes to the tally of any Members voting inside the House chamber. In addition, all software will run on—and be physically controlled by—HIR. Markup will retain no access to, nor collect any data from, the remote voting system.

Markup ERVS™ is intuitive and provides the functionality that the Speaker, Party Leadership, Members and the Clerk would expect. The process works as follows:

1. The Speaker authorizes a remote vote by the full House (or a committee chair authorizes a remote committee vote). This action causes every eligible voting Member to receive a notification via text message, email, and Microsoft Teams®, which notifies the Member that a remote vote is open with a link to the vote inside Microsoft Teams®.
  2. Leaders can provide their caucus' Members with guidance for each vote and daily cloakroom notices within the Remote Voting App inside Microsoft Teams®.
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3. The Speaker or Clerk designee (or Committee Chair/designee) control the Opening and Gaveling of all votes in real time.
4. Members log into Microsoft Teams® on their laptop and vote inside of the Remote Voting App by clicking Yea, Nay, or Present, and can change their votes while the vote is open.
5. The Speaker and Members can see a running tally of all remote votes by all Members.
6. In order to vote, Members must authenticate to the laptop voting application inside Microsoft Teams by entering a Member-specific and vote-specific security code that will be transmitted to their phones. Members then confirm their votes by signing their signature using the Adobe® secure digital signature.
7. Each voting Member and their staff immediately receive a PDF copy of the Member's vote by email, which the Member can print to paper if desired.
8. Every digitally signed vote of each Member is automatically saved as a separate Adobe® PDF file in a folder viewable by the Speaker and the Clerk (or Committee Chairman and designated Committee staff). The Speaker and Clerk (or Committee Chairman/ designated Staff) may print the Adobe® PDF votes and digital signatures in real time for manual counting so they can confirm the electronic tally if desired.

### **Development & Cost**

- All of Markup's developers on this project are United States citizens working inside the United States
- Microsoft has agreed to conduct an immediate code and security review of Markup ERVS™.
- Markup is also ready to submit our code to additional third-party reviews and audits as requested by House Information Resources.

Due to this unprecedented crisis, Markup has invested over 1,000 development hours to surge Markup ERVS™ development from prototype to production. We completed and tested a fully functioning product late last week. We expect to negotiate a price of about \$100/month per user on the floor of each voting body using the system.

We look forward to discussing this project at your earliest convenience and the possibility of assisting any Adobe client that might benefit from a secure remote voting system.

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**Markup's Existing HIR-Approved Product.** Markup already provides a software product (Markup.Law®), approved by House Information Resources, for use in the House for redlining and comparison of bills and for collaborating and commenting on draft legislation. The Markup.Law® product is built on the Microsoft Office 365 platform inside of Microsoft Teams®—a secure platform already approved, purchased, and in use throughout the House. The Markup.Law® product is deployed on the Microsoft Azure Secure Government Cloud Computing (GCC) system. Markup is the first—and to our knowledge only—company to ship a Microsoft Teams® application on the House of Representative's GCC system.

About Markup: [www.markup.law/about-us](http://www.markup.law/about-us)