

EconomiCali

(A FiscalNote Prototype)

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Abstract— EconomiCali provides data services, and news to small and medium organizations through the EconomiCali Government Relationship Management (GRM) service. EconomiCali has reinvented influence – dramatically improving the way organizations gather legal information related to their business. Contextual insights are delivered via elegant workflow that support an enterprise-based approach to modern government affairs.

I. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Government information is not easy to access and there is lot of it. For any business, keeping the information which their business depends on in spreadsheet which are being updated. Traditionally they were looking at around 50+ different websites, Federal websites, take links, PDFs, texts and put them all together into one folder on to their computer. Having a dedicated platform which provides the ability to view all the legal information about their businesses and take decisions accordingly will help organizations proactively grow and protect themselves.

II. INTRODUCTION

Every organization should be in line with the norms and policies of the Government in order to efficiently run their businesses. Handling the legal matters, is one of the major things to take care of when starting a new business, to make sure their intended businesses abide by all the rules and regulations. Many organizations find it troublesome to gather legal information related to their business areas as they have to collect lot of information from various government sites, information and discussion forums or from lawyers. ‘EconomiCali’ solves this problem by maintaining this huge amount of information in one application. This information contains a list of all the bills with its details, corresponding to various categories, in its varied process stages. It also gives information about its creators and other legislative people involved with it.

Thus, the aim of the project is to make all this crucial data available to organizations or budding business individuals in a user friendly, customizable way where they can abstract and view whatever is necessary for them. Thus, this application would be of a great value and remarkable importance to these business

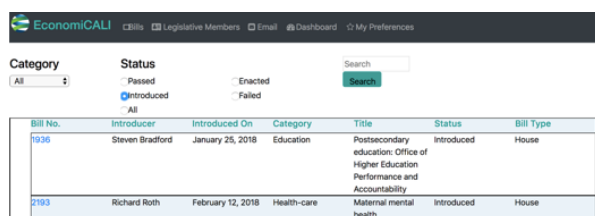
organizations as it will help them get rid of any future legal trouble with ease and without spending much money.

III. PERSONAS

Personas for the application ‘EconomiCali’ are Government Affairs team members of organizations that want to run a business or continue running their business in the country efficiently.

IV. FEATURES

Bills



Bill No.	Introducer	Introduced On	Category	Title	Status	Bill Type
1936	Steven Bradford	January 25, 2018	Education	Postsecondary education: Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability	Introduced	House
2193	Richard Roth	February 12, 2018	Health-care	Maternal mental health.	Introduced	House

The application displays all the bills corresponding each category such as Education, Government, Corporation, Agriculture, Health Care etc. Each has the following fields

- Bill No
- Introducer
- Introduced On
- Category
- Title
- Status
- Bill Type

Bill No: It is a unique number corresponding to each Bill given by the Government when a bill is introduced.

Title: Provides a brief description about the bill.

Introducer: It is the person who has introduced the bill.

Introduced On: The date on which the bill was introduced.

Category: This option defines under which category the bills is arranged, for example: Education, Health-Care, Corporation, etc. The user

can select particular category from the drop-down box and view all the bills corresponding to that category.

Status: Determines the status of the bill which can be passed, Failed, Enacted, etc. The select status radio button allows users to view all the bills corresponding to the selected status.

This page also provides the functionality to filter out other categories and keep only those of our interest, thus enabling efficient search. If we want to find a bill which is particularly effective within the issue area of Sports and Recreation, then after applying the scope filter and choosing particular region from the list, we go to the categories tab and mark that we only want to see the effective legislatures within the Sports and Recreation field.

The search bar on the page allows users to provide a bill number to display its respective details. When a user inputs the Bill number in the search, it displays the details of that particular bill.

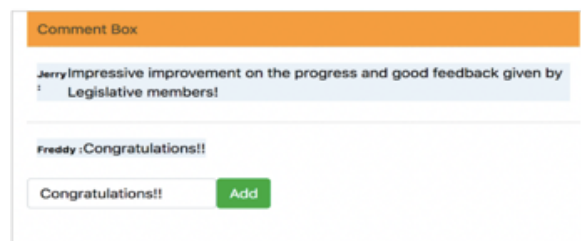
On clicking a particular bill number link



School finance: special education funding	
Bill No:	312
Status:	Pass
Introduced By:	Steven Bradford
Introduced On:	February 06, 2017
Category:	Education
Type:	Senate
Description:	In passing the Local Control Funding Formula in 2013, the Legislature shifted decision-making back to local districts and steered more money to districts with higher proportions of low-income children and English learners. Proposition 98, adopted in 1988, sets the overall yearly level of K-12 and community college spending through a complex formula tied to the growth in the state economy.

The user is redirected to a page with more detailed information on that particular bill.

Comments on the Bill



Comment Box

Jerry: Impressive improvement on the progress and good feedback given by Legislative members!

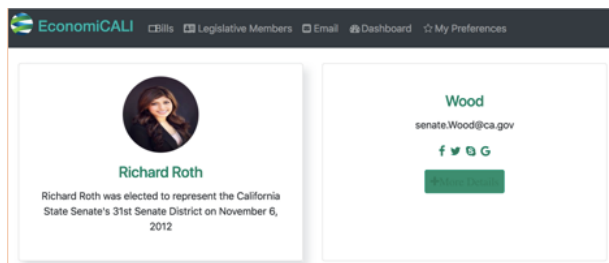
Freddy: Congratulations!!

Congratulations!! Add

When a user clicks on the Bill no, a complete description of the bill is displayed and user who is the representative of the organization can comment on bills to have collaboration among his colleagues.

It provides transparency among the members in his team to know the status and the progress on the bill.

Legislative Members



This feature is used to display the list of legislative members, with their profile and their mail ids for the organization to communicate with them to work on the bills

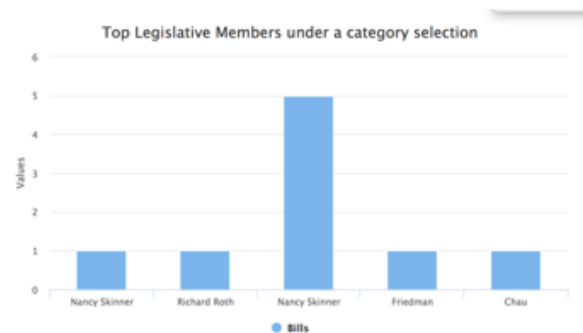
Email Feature

Each user is provided with mail service to communicate with the Senators on the bills

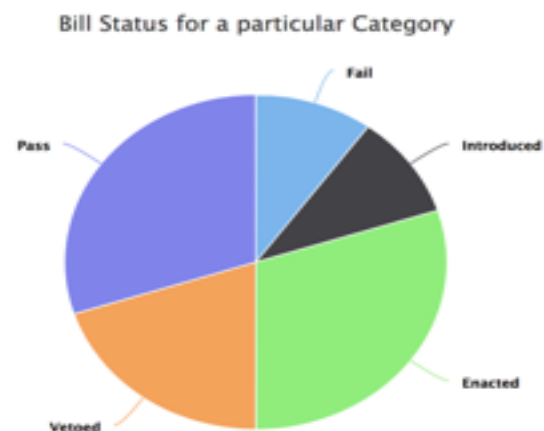
Dashboard



drop-down to select category



Bar graph which shows top 5 legislative members (one who dealt with maximum number of bills) in the category selected by the user.



Pie chart which shows status of selected bill in particular category.

Analytics provides the organization to give an insight of the top senators under category who dealt with more no of bills for each category

It also showcases the bill status for each category

Saved Preference

[Legislative Members](#)
[Email](#)
[Dashboard](#)
[My Preferences](#)

Welcome Freddy!
[Logout](#)

[Emergency](#)
[Health Service](#)
[Health](#)

Bill Number	Bill title	Bill Description	Bill Status
962	The Healthy California Act.	When enacted, the Healthy California Act will guarantee that every resident of California will receive comprehensive health care services. It's the Medicare for All. Individuals will have free choice of licensed health professionals and services. Covered benefits will include services to keep people healthy —mentally and physically—as well as those services that diagnose and treat diseases. In addition to emergency services, surgeries, and hospital stays, services such as home health care, day care and hospice are covered.	Fail
2502	Health care payments database.	When enacted, the Healthy California Act will guarantee that every resident of California will receive comprehensive health care services. It's the Medicare for All. Individuals will have free choice of licensed health professionals and services. Covered benefits will include services to keep people healthy —mentally and physically—as well as those services that diagnose and treat diseases. In addition to emergency services, surgeries, and hospital stays, services such as home health care, day care and hospice are covered.	Enacted
2143	Mental health: Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program.	An awardee may receive up to \$15,000 to repay educational loans for up to a 24-month commitment practicing and providing direct patient care in a qualified facility. Qualified facilities include publicly funded or public mental health facilities, non-profit mental health facilities that contract with a county entity to provide mental health services, and/or designated mental health professions shortage areas.	Pass
2895	Primary Care Spending Transparency Act.	Grants, including, but not limited to, health insurance companies, health care service plans, health care centers, hospitals, health service organizations, employers, health care clinicians, health care facilities, state and local governmental entities, and consumers, may meet to facilitate the development, implementation, and operation of the Primary Care Payment Reform Collaborative in accordance with this act.	Voted

It allows user to search for keywords, which highlights the text in Yellow from the available bills. It also allows the user to save the selected bills.

User quickly navigate to the corresponding bill that he wants to save and work on them

rich library that we can use with just importing the required modules not worrying about how they work at backend.

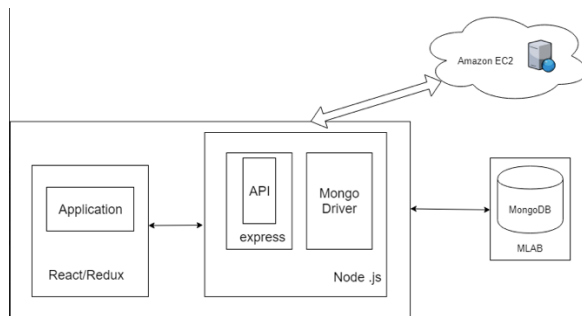
C. Database

We have used MongoDB database as our datasource. We chose MongoDB for two reasons, first MongoDB's document-oriented data model makes it exceptionally easy to add or change fields second it helped us to quickly evolve an application, MongoDB's flexible data model facilitates this. Rather than fitting an application to meet schema requirements.

D. Web Scrapping

We gathered required information needed for our application from California Legislative Information site. Web Scrapping (also termed Screen Scrapping, Web Data Extraction Web Harvesting etc.) is a technique employed to extract large amounts of data from websites whereby the data is extracted and saved to a local file in your computer or to a database in table (spreadsheet) format using the cheerio library to scrap the data for few features of our application

V. IMPLEMENTATION



A. Web Front-End

We used bootstrap because of its speed of development, responsiveness, consistency, customizability and available community support. We implemented the front-end in ReactJS, and hosted on AWS EC2. ReactJS gave us the easier approach as we built custom components that we could use everywhere in the project. It was fast in rendering as it renders only the changed DOM and not the entire page itself. It also helped us build the project as a single page application.

B. Back-End

For the back-end we have used Node.JS as our server side framework as Node.JS runs on a single thread and is a light weight process. Node JS request-response methodology is relatively faster when compared to other server side frameworks. This back-end server is hosted on an AWS EC2 instance. Node JS provides a feature

VI. FUTURE ENHANCEMENTS

There are lot of enhancement's possible, such as: 1) The major possible enhancement would be- Currently in our application we have just made an attempt to help small and medium organizations to successfully execute their mission and vision. We can also extend this to Large Organizations and Multinational Businesses. This can be more challenging because Large Organizations and Multinational Businesses will be spread all over the country and even in different countries as well. So now we not only need to take care of all the state regulatory compliances within the country but also state regulatory compliances of other countries where the company's branches are spread.

2) Say the company which has registered with EconomiCali has saved some preferences which are related to their company. In future if there are any changes made to the bills for which the

company has registered, we will notify the company via email so that they can take specific action.

As said previously there are lot more enhancements possible.

VII. CONCLUSION

To conclude, we were able to help Small and Medium Organizations to some extent to help solve beautifully complicated intersection of information between Government, Data and Business which is changing rapidly, constantly and inconsistently by aggregating massive government datasets, by seeing critical information more clearly.

VIII. Acknowledgement

Thanks to Prof. Rakesh Ranjan for his devoted guidance. The clarity of his comments and the insights he shared on latest technologies helped us a lot to learn and implement his application which will be very useful for Small and Medium Organizations to successfully execute their organization's mission and vision.

IX. REFERENCES

- [1] Official California Legislative Information
<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>
- [2] Fiscal Note
<https://fiscalnote.com/>