

THE LESSENING REGULATORY COSTS AND ESTABLISHING A FEDERAL REGULATORY BUDGET ACT OF 2017

Dear Colleague:

On January 30, 2017, President Trump signed an executive order entitled “[Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs](#).” As the title suggests, the order is intended to both reduce the burden imposed by federal regulations and establish a cap on the costs that such regulations impose on the United States economy. **It could prove to be one of the most significant developments for agency rulemaking in decades.**

I’ve introduced legislation, [H.R.2623 - Lessening Regulatory Costs and Establishing a Federal Regulatory Budget Act of 2017](#), that would codify the President’s order and direct agencies to repeal two existing regulations for each new significant regulation issued, and to do so in such a way that the total cost of regulations does not increase.

This bill establishes a process to ease old, less efficient regulations off the books. It would make agencies prioritize and separate those regulations that are actually necessary from those that are not. For the first time, agencies would be encouraged to find savings from past rules before issuing new regulatory costs.

The reforms in this bill would yield large and lasting benefits for the operations of the Federal government, small businesses, and the American people.

Dedicated regulatory reform officers, established under this bill at each agency, will be tasked with leading that agency’s regulatory task force on finding simpler and less costly regulations while promoting smarter regulating.

This bill will establish needed checks and balances on regulators by requiring them to find savings through a regulatory budget.

A growing executive branch and a shrinking legislative branch is a recipe for unaccountable, uncontrolled government. Certainly, reducing the size of government would make oversight easier, making each agency again accountable to the Congress, and by virtue, the American people.

Not only does this bill take significant steps to address the overwhelming number of federal regulations on the books, it also forces regulatory agencies to regulate smarter and with a purpose.

Please contact Chad Yelinski in my office to cosponsor the bill. He may be reached at chad.yelinski@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark Meadows
Member of Congress