

THE 2018 REGULATORY REFORM REPORT

# CUTTING THE RED TAPE UNLEASHING ECONOMIC FREEDOM



# THE REGULATORY FREEDOM AGENDA

## A MESSAGE FROM THE OIRA ADMINISTRATOR

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Under the leadership of President Trump, real regulatory reform is underway. Federal agencies have identified ways to reduce the costs and compliance burdens on working Americans and businesses. As the examples below demonstrate, the benefits of deregulation are felt far and wide and create opportunities for economic growth and development. Farmers can more productively use their land. Small businesses can hire more workers and provide more affordable healthcare. Innovators will be able to pursue advances in autonomous vehicles, drones, and commercial space exploration. Veterans can enjoy expanded access to doctors through a telehealth program. Infrastructure can be improved more quickly with streamlined permitting requirements. These reforms and many others make life better for all Americans through lower consumer prices, more jobs, and, in the long run, improvements in well-being that result from the advancement of innovative new products and services.

In the past two years, agencies have reduced regulatory costs by \$33 billion and eliminated hundreds of regulations, guidance documents, and paperwork burdens. The pace of reform has accelerated as major rulemakings are completed. Agencies are developing common-sense regulatory policy that works for the American people by protecting health and safety, while minimizing unnecessary burdens. Our reform agenda focuses on individual freedom and unleashing the potential of American workers, innovators, and businesses. As an Administration, we are working to push back the expansion of the administrative state, which has placed undue burdens on the public and impeded economic growth. At the same time, we work with agencies to comply with their responsibilities to regulate when, and how, Congress has directed.

Our reform efforts also tackle how regulatory policy is made. The Administration aims to restore greater political accountability and ensure that agencies respect the constitutional values of due process and fair notice. This includes limiting the improper use of guidance documents - ensuring that agencies cannot impose new obligations on the public in a press release, blog post, or speech, but instead must use rulemaking procedures that generally include notice to the public and an opportunity to comment. Consistent with its longstanding commitment to the principles of good regulatory policy, the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs works closely with agencies to ensure their regulatory policy is consistent with law and the President's priorities for minimizing regulatory burdens in Executive Order 13771. The first two years of the Administration have yielded unparalleled reform, and the regulatory reform report projects even more significant results in the coming year.

*- Neomi Rao*

ADMINISTRATOR  
THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS



# RED TAPE REDUCTION

**12 ~~TO~~ 1**  
DEREG TO REG RATIO

**\$23**  
**BILLION**  
IN NET SAVINGS

**176**  
DEREGULATORY ACTIONS

Since the day President Trump took office, Americans across the country have experienced the positive effects of pro-growth economic policies. A fundamental pillar of that success has been the Administration's regulatory reform agenda, which has prioritized eliminating unnecessary burdens and promoting common-sense regulatory policy. For far too long, families and businesses were burdened by regulations from Washington that frustrated THEIR American dream. Over the past twenty-one months, President Trump has delivered on his promise of reining in unnecessary regulations, making excessive federal overreach a policy of the past. Through these regulatory reforms, Americans once again feel they can confidently invest in their families, businesses, and future.



## **\$23 BILLION IN COST SAVINGS**

In Fiscal Year 2018, President Trump has saved \$23 billion in overall regulatory costs. Since taking office, the Trump Administration has achieved provided \$33 billion in net regulatory savings.



## **12-TO-1**

Agencies across the Federal Government eliminated 176 outdated, unnecessary or duplicative regulatory actions and issued only 14 new significant regulatory actions in FY18 – a ratio of 12-to-1.



## **PLANNED OR WITHDRAWN ACTIONS**

The Trump Administration withdrew or delayed 648 regulatory actions in FY18. Since January 2017, a total of 2253 regulatory actions have been delayed or withdrawn.

## ADMINISTRATION COMPARISON

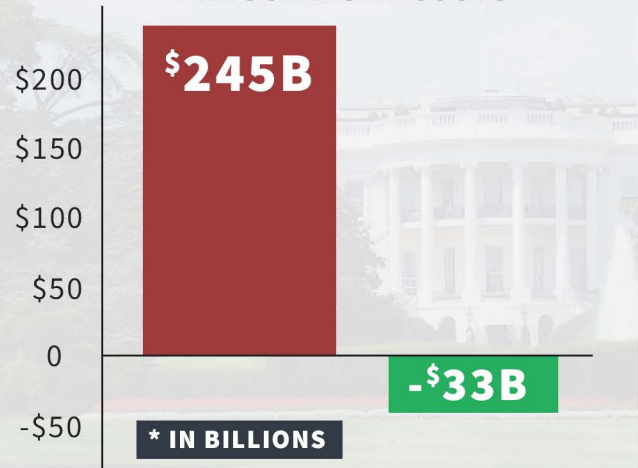
### OBAMA ADMINISTRATION:

**Imposed \$245 billion** in burdensome regulatory costs on the American people in the first 21 months.

### TRUMP ADMINISTRATION:

Reversed course and **saved \$33 billion** in regulatory costs in the first 21 months.

## REGULATORY COSTS



# UNLEASHING ECONOMIC FREEDOM



## EXPANDING HEALTH INSURANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

The Department of Labor made it easier for small businesses and sole proprietors to provide health insurance by joining together to offer association health plans. Many small business and their employees struggle with government restrictions that limit access to quality, affordable health coverage. Association health plans provide economies of scale and lower administrative expenses, which can help more Americans receive healthcare from their employer.

## EXPANDING VETERAN ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

The Department of Veterans Affairs has greatly expanded veterans ability to use telecommunications to access health care providers. Telehealth brings state-of-the-art healthcare to veterans everywhere, expanding options for those who live in rural and underserved areas. Veterans will benefit from better care, and both veterans and the Department could save as much as \$400 million on travel costs.





# PROMOTING OPPORTUNITY

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## FREEING AMERICA'S FISHERMEN

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has taken numerous actions to promote responsible and economically beneficial fishing practices. Large areas off the coast of New England have been opened to commercial sea scallop harvesting for the first time in years. Allowing scallop harvesting in these areas will result in a net economic benefit of \$654 million dollars. NOAA has taken a series of other steps, including increasing flexibility for bluefin tuna fishermen; revising regulations for shark fisheries to improve revenue from sustainable catch; and modifying rules for recreational fishing vessels off the coast of Oregon to allow the catch of target groundfish without accidental takings of certain rockfish species. Moreover, NOAA has expanded the Fisheries Finance Program, making it easier for the next generation of fishermen to purchase fishing rights and start a business.



## REDUCING HEALTHCARE PAPERWORK BURDENS

The Department of Health and Human Services has eliminated provider burdens for skilled nursing facilities, inpatient hospitals, and home health care providers. Rolling back these unnecessary requirements will save \$8.2 billion in regulatory costs. Moreover, Medicare Advantage organizations and Part D plans can now provide information to beneficiaries electronically, increasing flexibility and lowering costs.





# LOOKING FORWARD

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Across the Administration, agencies continue to pull back regulatory costs and eliminate unnecessary regulations, guidance documents, and paperwork. These regulatory efforts have driven our country's booming economy. While continuing to protect health and safety, streamlined regulatory policy lets productivity and innovation flourish for individuals and businesses. The Administration plans even bolder efforts in Fiscal Year 2019.



## **MAKING NEW CARS SAFER AND MORE AFFORDABLE**

The Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency propose to amend existing Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards and tailpipe carbon dioxide emissions standards for passenger cars and light trucks. The rule proposes to retain and lock in the model year 2020 standards through model year 2026, resulting in an estimated savings of approximately \$340 billion over the lifetime of the vehicles. Although the agencies requested comment on a broad range of options, including the standards originally established in 2012, even the least deregulatory alternative in the proposal is estimated to save \$120 billion over the lifetime of the vehicles.



## **ELIMINATING FEDERAL CONTROL OVER EPHEMERAL WATERS**

The Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers propose to redefine "Waters of the United States" to narrow the scope of jurisdictional waters under the Clean Water Act. The proposed rule would interpret the term "navigable waters" to eliminate federal control over ephemeral waters while also improving predictability and clarity to landowners.



## **ENABLING INNOVATION IN AUTOMATED VEHICLES**

The Department of Transportation is examining how to enable the safe integration of automated vehicles onto roadways. The agency is seeking comment on existing regulatory barriers and considering whether to remove or to modify requirements for vehicles that use varying levels of automated driving technology.

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# **EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C.