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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

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INDEPENDENT

December 5, 2001

John D. Graham  
Administrator  
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget  
725 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Graham:

Yesterday's *Washington Post* reported that you asked Republican Subcommittee staff of the House Government Reform Committee to solicit "key lobbyists" from business groups to identify regulations that the lobbyists consider overly burdensome.<sup>1</sup> According to the *Washington Post*, the Republican staff of the Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs identified 57 such regulations and planned to share the list with you "confidentially." These regulations supposedly dealt with such important issues as the Family and Medical Leave Act, food labeling, lead paint disclosure, truck safety, and air and water quality.<sup>2</sup>

We believe that the decision to roll back regulations, particularly those affecting public health, welfare, and safety, should not be done on a "confidential" basis. Rather, we believe it is important that such deliberations involve input from the public and members of Congress on a bipartisan basis. Accordingly, we request that you provide us with the list of regulations described in the *Washington Post* article, and any additional information you have relating to the effort you reportedly initiated with Republican Subcommittee staff to target rules. We ask that this information be provided to us by the close of business on Friday, December 7, 2001.

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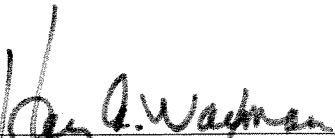
<sup>1</sup>*Business Lobbyists Asked To Discuss Onerous Rules*, *Washington Post* (Dec. 4, 2001).

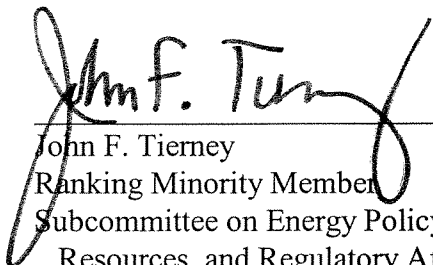
<sup>2</sup>*Id.*

John D. Graham  
December 5, 2001  
Page 2

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Henry A. Waxman  
Ranking Minority Member  
Committee on Government Reform

  
John F. Tierney  
Ranking Minority Member  
Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Natural  
Resources, and Regulatory Affairs  
Committee on Government Reform

cc: The Honorable Dan Burton  
The Honorable Doug Ose