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Recent Research & Publications

Trump Administration Picks Up the Regulatory Pace in Its Second Year, by Bridget C.E. Dooling

Significant regulatory activity declined dramatically - by 74% - during the Trump Administration's first full year in office, compared to the same period in the Obama Administration. This was a profound disruption to the pace of regulatory activity at executive branch agencies. The first 6 months of the Trump Administration's second year reveal a quicker pace, with significant regulatory activity down 63% compared to the same period in the Obama Administration. Overall, however, the Trump Administration's regulatory pace is 70% less than that of the Obama Administration in its first 18 months. This is a striking result for an administration that has made regulatory reform a signature issue. More...

RSC Scholars filed three separate Public Interest Comments on EPA's advanced notice: Increasing Consistency and Transparency in EPA's Benefit-Cost Analysis, by Susan E. Dudley, Brian F. Mannix, & Joseph J. Cordes

Commentaries

Regulatory Sandboxes: The Future of Regulation?, by Motunayo Bamgbose-Martins, 8/1

FCC Process Reform Underscores Need for Economic Review at Independent Regulatory Agencies, by Mark Febrizio & Samantha Day, 7/24

DHS Proposes Raising Barriers to Foreign Entrepreneurship in the U.S., by Lisa Zimmer, 7/16

In the News

Federal News Radio, 70-Percent Drop in Significant Regulations in Trump Admin's First 18 Months, Bridget Doolling on Federal Drive with Tom Temin, 8/16

Government Executive, EPA's Bid for 'Consistent and Transparent' Rulemaking Draws Fire, quoting Joseph Cordes, Susan Dudley, & Brian Mannix, 8/14

Forbes, Documenting Deregulation, by Susan Dudley, 8/14

MLex US Tax Watch, Tax Reform Regulation Easily Clears OMB Hurdle, quoting Bridget Doolling, 8/10

Wall Street Journal, Commissions Are Mulvaney's Error of Omission, by Susan Dudley & Sally Katzen, 8/5

Washington Post, Fact Checker: Has the Trump
Dudley’s comment supports EPA’s efforts to improve the transparency and consistency of the analysis supporting its significant regulations and, referring to the Consumer’s Guide to Regulatory Impact Analysis, reviews ten tips for achieving this objective. She encourages EPA, as a first step, to review all its statutory authority and, to the maximum extent possible, interpret its statutory standards through a lens of standard benefit-cost analysis principles. More…

Mannix’s comment explores the reasons why the Environmental Protection Agency might choose to conduct a rulemaking on the general topic of how it considers benefits and costs, reviews some of the legal considerations that should be brought to bear on that effort, and recommends that the administration consider encouraging this type of activity in other agencies. More…

Cordes' comment discusses the value-added of using benefit-cost analysis in the regulatory process, the extent to which guidance is presently available on the application of benefit-cost analysis to regulatory analysis, the specific issue of which stakeholders should receive standing in benefit-cost analysis, and the inclusion of indirect effects, also referred to as co-benefits, in benefit-cost calculations. More…

Upcoming Event
SAVE THE DATE!
Celebrating 25 Years of Executive Order 12866: Reflecting On Its Longevity and Looking Into Its Future
The GW Regulatory Studies Center is co-hosting a forum with the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration, the American Bar Association, and the Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis on Monday, September 24. Details will be forthcoming, but plan to join us in the Jack Morton Auditorium that afternoon for a discussion with past and present leaders of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs and other special guests!

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About the GW Regulatory Studies Center
Since 2009 the GW Regulatory Studies Center has been a leading source for applied scholarship on regulatory issues, and a training ground for current and future policy officials who want to understand the effects of regulation and ensure that regulatory policies are designed to improve public welfare.

Administration Repealed 22 Regulations for Each New One?, quoting Bridget Dooling & Susan Dudley, 8/3

Noteworthy
Director Susan Dudley and Research Professor Brian Mannix published articles in the Supreme Court Economic Review titled, "Improving Regulatory Science: A Case Study of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards," and, "Benefit-Cost Analysis as a Check on Administrative Discretion," respectively.


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