

Former Administrators of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

June 6, 2017

The Honorable Ron Johnson, Chairman
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
340 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Claire McCaskill, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
340 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Mme. Ranking Member:

The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) has helped presidents, both Democratic and Republican, ensure that federal regulations are designed to provide the greatest value to the American people. Objective evaluation of regulatory benefits and costs and open, transparent, and responsive regulatory procedures are essential to the development of effective public policy free from the undue influence of narrow interests. The undersigned are former OIRA Administrators who have worked to achieve these essential goals under administrations of both parties. We respectfully request that the Senate move as quickly as possible to ensure that OIRA has strong leadership in place as the new administration and Congress confront a range of difficult and complex regulatory challenges.

We commend the nomination of Neomi Rao to fill the position of OIRA Administrator. Professor Rao has experience in all three branches of government. She is currently an associate professor at the Antonin Scalia Law School where she founded and directs the Center for the Study of the Administrative State. She is also a member of the Administrative Conference of the United States and serves on the Governing Council of the American Bar Association's Section on Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice. We are pleased that the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs will this week hold Professor Rao's hearings. Given the important role that OIRA has to play in policy initiatives already under way, we urge the Committee to proceed expeditiously with its report and recommendation so that the full Senate can vote on Professor Rao's nomination.

Sincerely,



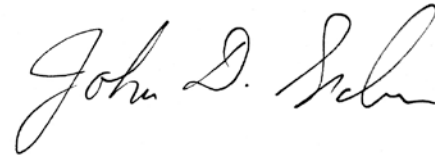
James C. Miller III
(January 1981 – September 1981)



John T. Spotila
(July 1999 – December 2000)



Christopher C. DeMuth
(October 1981 – May 1984)



John D. Graham
(July 2001 – March 2006)



Wendy Lee Gramm
(October 1985 – February 1988)



Susan E. Dudley
(April 2007 – January 2009)



Sally Katzen
(June 1993 – February 1997)



Howard Shelanski
(June 2013– January 2017)

Please note: Former Administrators Douglas H. Ginsburg (June 1984 – September 1985) and S. Jay Plager (February 1988 – November 1989) are now United States Circuit Judges. Canon 7 of the Code of Conduct for United States Judges provides that a “judge may not endorse...a candidate for public office.”