

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 24, 2012

Dear Colleague:

President Obama's government-controlled society has burdened America's job creators with some of the most expensive regulations in American history. The cost – in time spent on paperwork and in money – is hurting our economic freedom. We need less government control and more individual economic freedom.

A few facts:

- The most recent Small Business Administration evaluation estimated annual regulatory compliance costs of \$1.75 trillion -- an astonishing 48.7 percent of total federal spending.
- According to the Center for Fiscal Accountability, the average American had to work 77 days to pay for the cost of Washington regulations.
- Of the 4,128 regulations now in the pipeline, 212 are "economically significant" rules having at least a \$100 million annual economic impact. That number represents a 32.5 percent jump over the 160 "economically significant" rules five years ago. It is more than any year of the past decade except for the 224 rules in 2010.

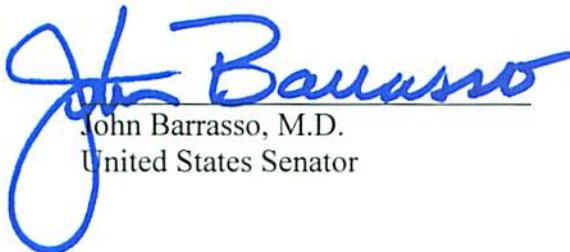
In 2011, agencies issued 3,807 final rules – a 6.5 percent increase over 2010. Proposed rules in the Federal Register have surged from 2,439 in 2010 to 2,898 in 2011, a jump of 18.8 percent.

Federal regulation increases the cost of everyday living and creates uncertainty for American workers. The burden on the engine of job creation in America – small business – is even more troublesome. Small businesses spend an estimated \$10,500 per employee on federal regulations.

We trust you will find the attached document detailing the state of America's regulatory system, "Ten Thousand Commandments," from the Competitive Enterprise Institute useful to you.

If you have any questions, or would like additional copies of "Ten Thousand Commandments," please contact Ryan Taylor at 4-7183. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
John Barrasso, M.D.  
United States Senator



Rand Paul, M.D.  
United States Senator

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