



Sunset Caucus

## Waste Action Alert

*A publication of the RSC Sunset Caucus from co-chairs Kevin Brady (R-TX) and Jason Chaffetz (R-UT)  
Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), RSC Chairman*

### **Sunset Costly and Unreasonable Regulations**

*November 16, 2011*

**Program or Item Targeted:** Obsolete or unnecessary regulations.

**Cost of Program or Item:** Complying with federal regulations costs American businesses \$10,500 per employee annually. The regulatory burden contributes to the lack of confidence within the business community, resulting in a reluctance to hire and invest.

**Background on Program or Item to Be Sunseted:** At present there are 4,200 proposed federal rules pending approval and federal regulators are rolling out new rules at a startling pace. The amount of new regulations in the approval pipeline affecting small businesses has increased more than 11 percent since 2009. Once a rule is on the books it tends to stay there with little consideration given to its usefulness or relevance. Despite pledges of comprehensive regulatory reform, the Obama administration has paid lip service to efforts to genuinely identify and weed out unneeded rules.

**How to Sunset these Regulations:** H.R. 3068, the Regulatory Sunset and Review Act of 2011, establishes an orderly process by which federal agencies are required to regularly review major rules to determine whether they should be continued, modified, consolidated, or terminated. Agencies must consider the views of the public, regulated community, and Congress in providing a sunset review process if rules are deemed obsolete or unnecessary. Furthermore, if agencies are prohibited by law from amending or rescinding a rule, H.R. 3068 requires them to report to Congress on proposed statutory changes that would permit the necessary reform.

**MEMBER ACTION ITEM:** Rep. Randy Hultgren has introduced H.R. 3068, the Regulatory Sunset and Review Act to review, reform, rescind unreasonable regulations. Members are encouraged to cosponsor this legislation by contacting Doug Thomas at [Doug.Thomas@mail.house.gov](mailto:Doug.Thomas@mail.house.gov).

If you would like to participate in eliminating wasteful programs with the RSC Sunset Caucus, please e-mail [Cyrus.Artz@mail.house.gov](mailto:Cyrus.Artz@mail.house.gov).

Note: Not every item featured in the Waste Action Alerts is necessarily endorsed by the RSC. These Alerts highlight the individual initiatives of members of the RSC Sunset Caucus.

*"The RSC Sunset Caucus uncovers government waste and seeks to eliminate it,  
working to sunset programs that taxpayers shouldn't be paying for."*

