



January 8, 2015

The Honorable Pat Roberts
United States Senate
109 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Roberts:

On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), the nation's leading small business advocacy organization, I am writing in support of the Regulatory Responsibility for our Economy Act of 2015. This legislation would codify and strengthen commonsense regulatory reforms already in place via executive order aimed to ensure that costly federal regulations are thoroughly scrutinized and regularly reviewed.

Excessive and complex regulatory burdens continue to be a hardship for many small-business owners across America. In NFIB's most recent *Small Business Economic Trends*, "government requirements and red tape" ranked as the second-most frequent answer when NFIB members were asked to identify the single most important issue facing their small business. More than one in five respondents cited regulation as the biggest problem.

In January 2011, President Obama issued Executive Order 13563, which asserted important principles in the regulatory process. These principles include ensuring that regulatory benefits justify the costs, that rules are reviewed periodically to see if they are still necessary, and that regulations have flexible compliance mandates. E.O. 13563 affirmed many of the regulatory process objectives of Presidents Bush and Clinton.

The Regulatory Responsibility for our Economy Act would strengthen this executive order by making it law. The legislation would require agencies to give the public a minimum of 60 days for comment on proposed regulations, ensure that required analyses are included in the docket in a timely manner, and make all provisions of the act judicially reviewable.

The Regulatory Responsibility for our Economy Act is an important piece of legislation that would provide for a better rulemaking process for small-business owners. NFIB looks forward to working with you to ensure it becomes law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amanda Austin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amanda Austin
Vice President, Public Policy

National Federation of Independent Business