



Institute for
Policy Integrity

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 15, 2017

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STATEMENTS & RESOURCES ON THE REGULATORY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT AND OTHER BILLS

This week, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee will vote on several bills that could have devastating effects on the federal regulatory process.

The Senate’s version of the **Regulatory Accountability Act** would allow regulated entities to delay the implementation of beneficial rules for years through a wasteful form of hearings that have been discredited for decades. This bill would subject most major rules to a hearing process that was infamously used by the FDA when it spent nearly a decade determining whether peanut butter should consist of 87.5 or 90 percent peanuts. The agency amassed nearly 8,000 pages of hearing transcripts (with little useful information) in this process.

We have published an [analysis of the Senate’s Regulatory Accountability Act](#).

Richard Revesz, Director of the Institute for Policy Integrity at NYU School of Law, released the following statement on the Senate’s Regulatory Accountability Act:

This bill would make it impossible for federal agencies to regulate effectively. It would allow opponents to halt the implementation of rules for years. Many critically important safeguards that protect public health, consumers, and the environment would never see the light of day whenever the regulated industry raised an objection.

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Additional Resources:

- The Senate committee is also voting on the [Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny \(REINS\) Act](#), which would require Congress to review and retroactively approve all existing regulations and prevent agencies from issuing statutorily required rules unless approved by Congress.

- The Senate committee will vote on the [Midnight Rules Relief Act](#), which would allow Congress to repeal thousands of rules in a single resolution.
- The [House version of the Regulatory Accountability Act](#) would rewrite notice-and-comment rulemaking procedures and create extraordinarily burdensome hurdles in rule implementation.

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[The Institute for Policy Integrity](#) at New York University School of Law is a non-partisan think tank dedicated to improving the quality of government decisionmaking. The institute produces original scholarly research in the fields of economics, law, and regulatory policy; and advocates for reform before courts, legislatures, and executive agencies.