



Republican National Committee

Counsel's Office

RESOLUTION ON USING THE FEDERAL RULEMAKING MECHANISM AS A MEANS OF CREATING CENTRALIZED CONTROL

WHEREAS, federal agencies implement laws passed by Congress by utilizing the rulemaking process;

WHEREAS, inherent in the separation of powers, and specifically applicable to this situation, Congress has a duty to provide oversight to the activities of the executive branch, including the rules issued by federal agencies;

WHEREAS, the CRS states that the number of federal rules issued annually and the total number of pages in the *Federal Register* are often referred to as measures of the total federal regulatory burden;

WHEREAS, unfortunately, federal agencies have gone far beyond their duty to “implement” laws, as the number of regulations governing nearly every facet of American life continues to increase unabated;

WHEREAS, in 2014 alone, the *Federal Register* contained 78,978 pages of agency actions, of which there were 3,541 final rules and regulations, and 659 of those impact small businesses;

WHEREAS, another 2,375 regulations were proposed and are currently awaiting approval;

WHEREAS, a very strong argument can be made that centralized control is the ultimate aim of the vast majority of the total 5,916 new and proposed 2014 federal rules and regulations;

WHEREAS, the increasing importance of unelected federal agencies in structuring the legal environment in which American citizens and businesses operate, and the relative lack of oversight by Congress, represents an erosion of “representative” democracy;

WHEREAS, ever-increasing federal regulatory control can be devastating to a national economy, as reflected by the current economic conditions in the Eurozone; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee urges Republican lawmakers to implement a seldom used law – the Congressional Review Act – to void those rules and regulations that exceed the authority of federal agencies to implement laws passed by Congress;

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee urges the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate to review all of the major rules and regulations issued during the past eight years;

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee urges individual Republican Congressmen and Senators to propose legislation to overhaul the federal regulatory regime to prevent unelected bureaucrats from setting federal policy.

**As adopted by the Republican National Committee on January 16, 2015.*