

## IMPROVE THE REGULATORY PROCESS

TRSA recognizes the need for smart regulations to ensure a sound environment, workplace safety and protect public health. But with an increasing number of huge and complex rules costing \$2 trillion in compliance, it is clear the regulatory system isn't working the way it should. Americans deserve a working regulatory system that is fair for everyone, takes into account the views of communities and businesses, evaluates the impact rules will have on jobs and small businesses, and protects our economic and personal freedoms.

### BACKGROUND

TRSA believes in commonsense regulatory reform based on three bipartisan principles:

- **Accountability.** Congress should insist on an up-or-down vote on the largest and most costly regulations and more carefully craft legislation so that the purpose of the new rules are perfectly clear and regulators' discretion in writing rules is limited.
- **Transparency.** Nothing would ensure greater transparency than eliminating sue and settle agreements, where key decisions about how and when to issue new regulations are made in secret under pressure from special interest groups, entirely outside of the normal rulemaking process.
- **Participation.** Agencies should be required to inform the public of pending regulatory decisions on high-impact rules early in the process, share their data and economic models, and allow those who will be affected adequate time for comments.

### TRSA POSITION

Reforming our government's regulatory system and permitting process are issues that should unite Americans and their competing interests, not divide them. TRSA is advancing two bipartisan bills to reform and modernize the regulatory system:

- The Regulatory Accountability Act, HR 185 (S 2006) which would reform the regulatory process by increasing transparency during rule development, allowing interested parties access to the data, and making agencies consider alternatives that achieve their objective at a lower cost.
- The Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act: HR-427 (S-226) would require that Congress affirmatively approve every new Major Rule - those with the most impact on the economy (\$100 million or more annually) - proposed by the executive branch before it can be enforced on the American people.

### ACTION

Co-Sponsor and support the Regulatory Accountability Act (HR 185, S 2006) and the REINS Act (HR-427, S-226).