

August 30, 2017

The Honorable Joe Donnelly
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Donnelly,

The undersigned organizations, representing a broad range of businesses and industries across the entire state of Indiana, strongly urge you to support S. 951, the Regulatory Accountability Act of 2017 (RAA), which was introduced with bipartisan support from Senators Portman and Heitkamp. This bill would modernize the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), whose rulemaking provisions have remained virtually unchanged since it was enacted in 1946.

Our members believe that regulations need to be narrowly tailored, supported by strong and credible data and evidence, and impose the lowest possible burden while still implementing Congressional intent. When agencies produce regulations that do not reflect these ideals, better mechanisms to hold them accountable are needed.

The RAA builds on established principles of fair regulatory process and review that have been embodied in bipartisan executive orders dating to at least the Clinton administration. The RAA stands for good governance and getting rules right by bringing transparency, integrity, and accountability to the rulemaking process at federal agencies. With the passage of RAA, Congress would be restoring the checks granted to it by the Constitution over a federal regulatory bureaucracy that is opaque, unaccountable, and at times overreaching in its exercise of authority.

The Senate has a unique chance to bring real structural reform to the way agencies adopt the most costly rules that fundamentally change our nation. We appreciate your past support of similar legislation supporting regulatory accountability and look forward to working with you to enact this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Agribusiness Council of Indiana
Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. Indiana/Kentucky Chapter
Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce
Indiana Apartment Association
Indiana Builders Association
Indiana Cast Metals Association (INCMA)
Indiana Chamber of Commerce
Indiana Electric Cooperatives
Indiana Farm Bureau
Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association, Inc.
Indiana Restaurant & Lodging Association

Indianapolis Power & Light Co.
Southwest Indiana Chamber