



Week in Regulation

A \$2 Billion Week

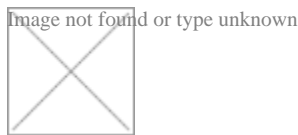
SAM BATKINS | AUGUST 21, 2015

Courtesy of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), regulators published more than \$2 billion in costs. Annual burdens were \$548 million, compared to just \$75 million in benefits; paperwork accelerated by more than 2.8 million hours. SEC's punitive "Pay Ratio" rule, ostensibly related to Dodd-Frank, led the week.

REGULATORY TOPLINES

- New Proposed Rules: 55
- New Final Rules: 76
- 2015 Total Pages of Regulation: 51,112
- 2015 Proposed Rules: \$72.9 Billion
- 2015 Final Rules: \$62.9 Billion

AAF has catalogued regulations according to their codification in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The CFR is organized into 50 titles, with each title corresponding to an industry or part of government. This snapshot will help to determine which sectors of the economy receive the highest number of regulatory actions.



The Department of Energy proposed a rule to increase efficiency standards for refrigerated beverage and vending machines. Net present value costs are modest, compared to other agency rulemakings, at just \$201 million. Annual burdens are \$10.2 million, with \$75 million in benefits. There will be a public hearing on September 29 to discuss the rulemaking.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Since passage, based on total lifetime costs of the regulations, the Affordable Care Act has imposed costs of \$47 billion in state and private-sector burdens and [165.7 million](#) annual paperwork hours.

DODD-FRANK

As AAF [reviewed here](#), SEC finalized a rule requiring companies to calculate the ratio of CEO pay to that of the median employee. This rule will include virtually all employees, even if they are working outside of the U.S. The costs of the final rule total \$1.8 billion, up from SEC's initial estimate of \$218 million. Paperwork for the

rule also increased to 2.3 million hours, up from just 545,000. Although this rule is related to Dodd-Frank, it will do nothing to promote financial stability. Indeed, SEC could not even provide a coherent discussion of the benefits of the final rule.

[Click here](#) to view the total estimated revised costs from Dodd-Frank; since passage, the legislation has produced more than 67.2 million paperwork burden hours and imposed \$35 billion in direct compliance costs.

TOTAL BURDENS

Since January 1, the federal government has published \$135.8 billion in compliance costs (\$62.9 billion in final rules) and has imposed 46.8 million in net paperwork burden hours (14.18 million from final rules). Click below for the latest [Reg Rodeo](#) findings.

