



Week in Regulation

A Quarter Billion in New Costs

SAM BATKINS | MARCH 14, 2014

Regulators were busy this week with 20 notable regulations. Combined, they could impose \$312 million in costs and more than 359,000 paperwork burden hours. In addition, the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) withdrew two energy conservation standards (reflector lamps and manufactured housing) that had been under review for more than two years.

REGULATORY TOPLINES

- New Proposed Rules: 51
- New Final Rules: 67
- 2014 Significant Documents: [109](#)
- 2014 Total Pages of Regulation: 14,608
- 2014 Proposed Rules: \$7.3 Billion
- 2014 Final Rules: \$5.9 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.

Regulation by Industry in 2014			
<u>CFR Title-Industry</u>	<u>Regulations</u>	<u>Cost (in millions)</u>	<u>Hours</u>
6-Domestic Security	1	57.4	
7-Agriculture	6	\$25.2	677,196
10-Energy	4	\$4,021	30,000
12-Banking	11	\$4.6	1,061,938
14-Aeronautics	57	\$555	145,404

Regulation by Industry in 2014

16-Commercial Practices	1		680
17-Commodities, Securities	5	\$50	372,077
18-Conservation	2	\$2	33,812
20-Employees' Benefits	1	\$1.1	6,360
21-Food and Drugs	7	\$4,243	2,894,313
22-Foreign Relations	1		-109,900
23-Highways	1	\$66.7	
26-Internal Revenue	6		8,335,000
28-Judicial Administration	1	\$451	
29-Labor	6	\$63.3	309,600
37-Patents, Copyright	1	\$43.4	111,810
38-Veterans' Relief	1		5,500
40-Environment	8	\$1,043	-687,554
41-Public Contracts	1	\$7.4	107,100
42-Public Health	3	\$44.5	1,069
45-Public Welfare	5	\$403.6	2,050,763
46-Shipping	1	\$0.3	842
47-Telecommunication	7	\$66.9	227,011
49-Transportation	7	\$1,634	1,926,169
50-Wildlife and Fisheries	1	\$420	

Regulation by Industry in 2014

Multiple Titles	6	\$29.1	-857,015
-----------------	---	--------	----------

The Department of Labor proposed the largest regulation this week, imposing up to \$22.3 million in annual costs. The proposal would require affected entities to provide a guide “that will enable responsible plan fiduciaries to effectively review the disclosures.” The regulatory analysis notes that quantified benefits, \$40.3 million, result from “time savings.”

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

There were five Affordable Care Act (ACA) regulations this week. However, they only imposed \$9.4 million in costs, 49,000 burden hours, and no benefits. The largest regulation establishes “Benefit and Payment Parameters for 2015.”

In addition, AAF has expanded its ACA database and included additional data on paperwork that was only available through notices, and not in proposed and final rules. The new database contains figures on benefits as well. At a seven percent discount rate, annualized costs of the ACA are \$6.8 billion, compared to \$2.6 billion in benefits.

Since passage, based on total lifetime costs of the regulations, the Affordable Care Act has imposed an estimated cost of [\\$27.2 billion](#) in private-sector burdens, approximately \$8 billion in costs to the states, and 159 million annual paperwork hours.

DODD-FRANK

There were two Dodd-Frank rulemakings this week, but they did not impose quantified costs or burden hours. [Click here](#) to view the total estimated compliance costs from Dodd-Frank; since passage, the legislation has produced more than 60.4 million paperwork burden hours and imposed \$17.8 billion in direct compliance costs. Based on calculations from the [Financial Services Roundtable](#), Dodd-Frank regulations would require 30,211 employees to file federal paperwork.

A NOTE ON NOTICES

There were 557 notices published this week. Regulators proposed 21 new paperwork requirements, imposing 4.4 million paperwork burden hours. Three of these notices monetized the cost of completing paperwork, adding a total of \$1.2 million to the overall compliance burden.

There was one major change to existing paperwork requirements (defined as an hourly burden increase or decrease of 500,000 or greater). This change accounted for a net total decrease of 1.5 million burden hours.

TOTAL BURDENS

Since January 1, the federal government has published \$13.3 billion in compliance costs and has imposed more than 16.6 million paperwork burden hours. [Click here](#) for our comprehensive database of regulations and rulemakings promulgated in 2014.