



Week in Regulation

The Nadir of Title II Regulation?

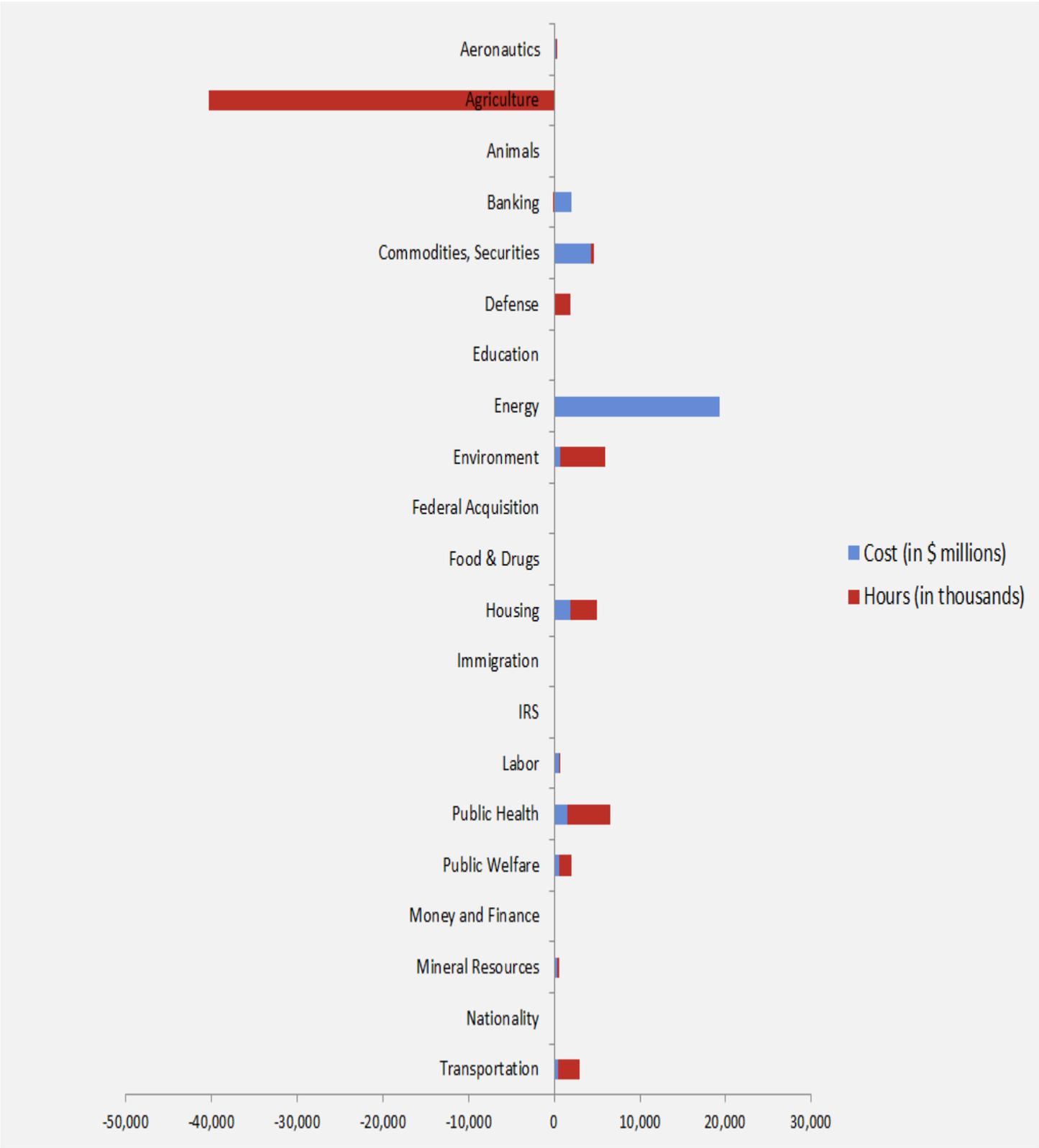
SAM BATKINS | JUNE 5, 2017

Another week, another five days of little to no regulation. Aside from a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) proposed rule to repeal onerous Title II regulation of the Internet, there was little in the way of notable regulation. Federal regulators proposed \$3.8 million in costs and finalized \$82.7 million in burdens, all through routine airworthiness directives. There were no quantified paperwork hours or benefits. The **per capita regulatory burden for 2017 is \$450**.

Regulatory Toplines

- New Proposed Rules: 68
- New Final Rules: 79
- 2017 Total Pages of Regulation: 25,714
- 2017 Final Rules: \$31.5 Billion
- 2017 Proposed Rules: \$114.2 Billion

The American Action Forum (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 of *final rules* (a change from earlier versions) will help to determine which sectors of the economy receive the highest number of regulatory actions.



FCC [published its proposal](#) to repeal Title II regulation of the Internet (“net neutrality”) this week. Broadly, the Internet would be reclassified as an “information service” and mobile broadband would be classified as a “private mobile service.” Interested parties will have 45 days to comment (by July 17, 2017); given the decade-long history of this dispute, it promises to deliver millions of comments, some of which will be substantive.

Finally, the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) did receive two regulations this week. One would designate a critical habitat for the Atlantic Sturgeon. The other, from the Environmental Protection Agency, would establish procedures for the evaluation of chemicals under the Toxic Substances Control Act.

Tracking Regulatory Modernization

For the immediate future, the CRA has run its course. Unless Congress exercises the so-called [CRA “loophole”](#) or the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau finalizes a controversial rule, the CRA likely won’t be used again [until 2025](#). The numbers are now final for CRA resolutions addressing Obama-era rules; the House and Senate both passed [14 CRA resolutions](#), with the Senate passing 14 total and the House 15 in all. President Trump has signed all 14 and Congress and the administration have eliminated \$3.7 billion in total regulatory costs and 4.2 million paperwork burden hours. There were 35 resolutions of disapproval introduced.

On regulatory budget implementation, below are the agencies that have accrued annual savings and are technically compliant with the president’s one-in, two-out budget:

- Defense: **\$400 million**
- Interior: **\$360 million**
- Education: **\$100 million**
- Labor: **\$78 million**
- HHS: **\$0.02 million**

All non-DOL figures are the result of CRA resolutions of disapproval. Given their historic regulatory output, AAF can predict that Defense, Interior, and Education will likely meet the goal of \$0 in net regulatory costs by the end of this fiscal year. However, if the [\\$60 million rule](#) that was proposed recently becomes final, HHS will need to find at least two regulations to offset the cost.

Affordable Care Act

Since passage, based on total lifetime costs of the regulations, the Affordable Care Act has imposed costs of [\\$53 billion](#) in final state and private-sector burdens and 176.9 million annual paperwork hours.

Dodd-Frank

[Click here](#) to view the total estimated revised costs from Dodd-Frank; since passage, the legislation has produced more than 74.8 million final paperwork burden hours and imposed \$38.5 billion in direct compliance costs.

Total Burdens

Since January 1, the federal government has published \$145.8 billion in compliance costs (\$31.5 billion in final rules) and has cut 18.8 million paperwork burden hours (due to 23.8 million in reductions from final rules).

[Click below](#) for the latest Reg Rodeo findings.

[Select All]

2017

2016

2015

2014

2013

2012

2011

2010

2009

2008

2007

2006

Total Number of
Regulations
Finalized

92

Total Finalized Cost

\$31.5b

Paperwork Hours

-23,827,843