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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3505**

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President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, D.C., 20500

Dear Mr. President,

On January 18, you issued an Executive Order to federal agencies entitled "On Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review." This Order was an encouraging first step in removing federal government red tape from obstructing the path of job creators who, without these regulations, would be growing and hiring, reducing America's high unemployment rate and stimulating economic growth. On June 1, you invited the Republican Conference to the White House and assured us that your Administration understood the need to ensure that the benefits of all regulations outweigh their costs. However, your Administration is writing regulations at a record pace and allowing limited time for industry and other stakeholder feedback.

For example, the EPA's Utility MACT rule, which the agency estimates will be the most expensive rule in its history, was issued with only 60 days available for public comment. While I commend the EPA's June 21 announcement to allow 30 additional days for comment, agency practice typically allows for 120-180 days for public comment on major rules. Rushing the proposal not only reduces public input, but has already caused substantial numerical errors, like overstating U.S. mercury emissions by a factor of 1,000. A recent study by the National Economic Research Associates estimated the EPA's MACT rules and proposed transport rule will result in a net loss of 1.44 million jobs, 53,500 of which will be lost in my home state of Ohio. Rules that put Americans out of work and threaten any chance at a real economic recovery should be thoroughly vetted by a full public comment period and should be based on accurate numbers. After a thorough and accurate analysis including those factors, as you said Mr. President, we should make sure the benefits outweigh the millions of jobs lost and the delayed economic recovery.

I commend your words about keeping unnecessary regulations off the books, but now I am asking you to follow your words with actions. The American economy cannot handle another recession, and Ohio cannot afford to lose over 50,000 more jobs. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress

cc: Speaker of the House, John Boehner