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Federal Regulation Reform Passes House

While there have been some recent signs of improvement, the current rate of economic growth is too slow to help the millions of Americans currently struggling to find work. One of the major impediments to job creation is overregulation. Each year, federal agencies issue 3,000 to 4,000 final rules, imposing new requirements and compliance costs on employers. On Friday, the House passed legislation to require federal agencies to consider the cost of new mandates they intend to impose on job creators, and increase transparency and accountability requirements in the rule-making process. The bill also requires agencies to consider and assess the costs and benefits of regulatory alternatives and to adopt the least-costly alternative. Congressman Miller supported this measure to reduce the burden federal rules have on job creators and hold federal agencies accountable for the regulations they issue.

House Adopts Small Business Regulatory Relief

As the creator of seven out of ten new jobs, small businesses are the driving force behind job growth in the United States. The costs of excessive government regulations, however, are placing a tremendous burden on small companies. According to the Small Business Administration (SBA), the average small business with fewer than twenty employees faces a cost each year directly attributed to federal regulations of over \$10,000 per worker they employ. To address the impact regulations have on employers, the House on Thursday passed the Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act. The bill closes loopholes in current law to ensure that federal agencies account for the effects of proposed regulations on small businesses. The measure also enhances the SBA's ability to help shape major federal rules to ensure that the law is implemented uniformly among all federal government agencies. Congressman Miller supported this legislation to help relieve the regulatory burden on small businesses and allow them to devote more of their time and resources to growing and creating new jobs.

House Votes to Prevent Ambush Union-Organizing Elections

This week, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) adopted changes to union election procedures that will limit the time employers have to properly prepare for pre-election hearings. The rule also will severely limit the time employees will have to decide whether they wish to join a union. To stop the NLRB from imposing these new procedures which will harm employers and employees alike, the House on Wednesday passed the Workforce Democracy and Fairness Act, which would give employers at least two weeks to prepare their case to present before NLRB election officials. The bill also prohibits union elections from taking place within 35 days of the completion of the pre-election hearing, giving employees sufficient time to consider their options. Congressman Miller will continue working to reform our nation's labor laws to protect employee freedom in the workplace.

House Votes to End Federal Financing of Presidential Campaigns

On Friday, the House passed H.R. 3463 to terminate public financing of presidential campaigns. Many presidential campaigns now routinely opt out of the public finance system. The program's popularity has also declined among taxpayers. In 2010, only 7.3% of taxpayers participated, down from nearly 29% in 1980. The bill would also disband the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), which was originally scheduled to sunset in 2005, but has since doubled in size despite a decreasing workload. The EAC has allocated all of its election grants and has requested no additional funding for the grants in their last three budget submissions. The EAC has however continued to spend millions of taxpayer dollars on administrative costs. In fact, these costs now consume over 50% of the Commission's budget. Congressman Miller supported this common-sense legislation to save \$480 million over five years and bring two underused and outdated programs to an end.