

**BABETTE JOSEPHS**, DEMOCRATIC MEMBER  
DEMOCRATIC CHAIR,  
STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE



REPRESENTATIVE OF THE 182ND DISTRICT

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*House of Representatives*  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

## MEMORANDUM

March 7, 2011

TO: All Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Rep. Babette Josephs

SUBJECT: Proposed Legislation – Extending Timeline for Standing Committee Role in the Regulatory Review Process

In the near future I will introduce legislation to amend the act of June 25, 1982 P.L. 633, No. 181, the Regulatory Review Act, to increase the relevance and effectiveness of the legislature's review and oversight of regulations proposed by the executive branch of our state government.

The mission of Independent Regulatory Review Commission's is to assist the Governor and the General Assembly in creating a beneficial regulatory balance between the affected community and the people of the Commonwealth. Standing committees of the House and Senate are formally notified by an agency when regulations falling within the purview of the committees are available for review and comment. Often, the General Assembly is not in session for some or all of the days during which review of and comment on proposed regulations may be made.

My legislation would require that an agency, notified by a standing committee of the General Assembly that the committee disapproves of the regulation or that it intends to study it further, cannot promulgate either a final form or a final-omitted regulation, until fourteen (14) *legislative* days have elapsed. "Legislative day" is defined as any day that both the House of Representatives and the Senate of Pennsylvania are in session. Currently, the Act requires only that fourteen *calendar* days must elapse before an agency can promulgate the regulations.

I believe this change in the process will help the Committees to develop the capacity to meaningfully review pertinent regulations and will maximize the Committees' time and effort in developing fair and balanced regulations. Should you wish to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Jenn Belz in my office at 787-8529 or by email at [jbelz@pahouse.net](mailto:jbelz@pahouse.net).

