

Plan for Commenting on the Adverse Impact of Rules

Pursuant to Executive Order 2011-01K and Senate Bill 2 of the 129th General Assembly, the Common Sense Initiative (CSI) Office is to develop a system to allow anyone to comment on the adverse impact to businesses from state agency administrative rules. The adverse impact may be from proposed rules or existing rules, and may relate to either the content of the rule or the implementation of the rule by the state agency.

Since it was established on January 10, 2011, the CSI Office has actively sought feedback from the general public, and business community more specifically, about the impact of state regulations on the ability of businesses to survive, prosper, and grow in the State of Ohio. The opportunities to provide this feedback are focused around the following two processes:

<u>Formal Rulemaking</u> – Senate Bill 2 required that, beginning January 1, 2012, every proposed state agency rule that has an adverse impact on business – as defined in section 107.52 of the Ohio Revised Code – must be subject to an analysis developed by the CSI Office. Under the process developed by CSI, agencies proposing such rules are required to proactively seek the input of stakeholder groups during the development of the rules. In addition, once they have developed a draft rule and completed the analysis described in Senate Bill 2, the agency must notify interested parties of the draft rule, provide access to the draft rule text and the CSI business impact analysis, and solicit comments from interested parties.

To receive notifications about draft rules in specific areas of interest, any person may sign up through the Ohio Business Gateway at http://business.ohio.gov/reform. When a draft rule is proposed in the area the person has signed up for, they will receive an email alert describing the rule and any changes (if it is an existing rule), and provide links for the person to access more information and to comment on the draft rule. The comments will go to the agency proposing the rule and to the CSI Office, and will be considered before any recommendations are made to the agency by the CSI Office and before the agency files the rule with the legislative Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review.

<u>Targeted Regulations</u> – In addition to the formal rulemaking comment process, any person may advise the CSI Office about the adverse impact of any state agency regulation, regardless of whether or not it is being considered as part of a draft rule. The CSI Office has established a web site at http://governor.ohio.gov/CSI where anyone can learn about the activities of the office, sign up for updates, or submit ideas for improved regulations. Likewise, anyone can submit comments through email (CSIOhio@governor.ohio.gov) or through the Lt. Governor's Office at (614) 466-3555.

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