SHIMP FOR PRESIDENT 2028

DRAFT EXECUTIVE ORDER

SMALL BUSINESS AND REGULATORY RELIEF

Presidential Day-One Policy Draft

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ACCOUNTABILITY | INTEGRITY | RULE OF LAW

This campaign discussion draft establishes a government-wide review of federal regulatory burdens on small businesses, independent operators, farmers, manufacturers, and entrepreneurs. It directs agencies to simplify compliance, eliminate obsolete or duplicative requirements, accelerate lawful permitting, and improve accountability while preserving protections required by Congress for health, safety, workers, consumers, civil rights, national security, and the environment.

EXECUTIVE ORDER

SMALL BUSINESS AND REGULATORY RELIEF

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Purpose and Policy.

It is the policy of the United States to maintain a regulatory system that protects the public while allowing Americans to start, operate, and expand businesses without unnecessary federal delay, duplication, paperwork, or expense. Agencies shall administer regulations in a manner that is lawful, understandable, predictable, evidence-based, and proportionate to the risks being addressed.

Small businesses should not bear compliance systems designed unnecessarily around the resources of the largest corporations. Agencies shall consider practical compliance alternatives for small entities where permitted by law.

Sec. 2. Government-Wide Regulatory Burden Review.

(a) Within 30 days, each executive department and agency shall begin reviewing significant regulations, guidance documents, reporting requirements, licensing procedures, permitting processes, and recurring paperwork affecting small entities.

(b) Agencies shall identify requirements that are obsolete, duplicative, internally inconsistent, unnecessarily complex, disproportionately burdensome to small entities, or no longer producing the public benefit for which they were adopted.

(c) Agencies shall prioritize reforms that can lawfully be completed through administrative action and separately identify reforms requiring legislation.

Sec. 3. Small Business Regulatory Impact.

(a) Agencies shall strengthen compliance with the Regulatory Flexibility Act and other applicable requirements concerning the effects of regulation on small entities.

(b) When legally available, agencies shall consider simplified reporting, phased compliance, performance-based standards, reduced frequency of filings, electronic filing, consolidated forms, and other alternatives that achieve statutory objectives with lower unnecessary burden.

(c) Agencies shall not waive a statutory health, safety, labor, environmental, civil-rights, consumer-protection, or national-security requirement merely because compliance carries a cost.

Sec. 4. One Federal Door for Small Business Compliance.

(a) The Administrator of the Small Business Administration, in coordination with OMB and participating agencies, shall develop a government-wide small-business compliance portal or coordinated access system using existing authorities and resources where practicable.

(b) The system should help businesses identify applicable federal licenses, permits, registrations, reporting requirements, compliance guidance, and agency contacts without requiring businesses to search numerous unrelated federal systems.

(c) Agencies shall use plain language and identify authoritative requirements separately from nonbinding guidance.

Sec. 5. Permitting and Licensing Accountability.

(a) Agencies administering permits, licenses, certifications, registrations, or approvals affecting businesses shall publish the principal application requirements, responsible office, normal processing steps, and statutory deadlines where applicable.

(b) Agencies shall identify applications that have remained pending beyond ordinary processing periods and take lawful steps to resolve avoidable administrative delays.

(c) Agencies shall coordinate overlapping reviews where permitted by law and shall not require duplicative submission of information already lawfully available to the reviewing agency when unnecessary.

(d) Nothing in this section guarantees approval of any application or authorizes an agency to waive a substantive requirement enacted by Congress.

Sec. 6. Paperwork Reduction and Reporting Consolidation.

(a) OMB shall direct agencies to identify recurring federal forms and reports that request substantially duplicative information from small businesses.

(b) Agencies shall pursue consolidated reporting, pre-populated government data, interoperable systems, and elimination of obsolete collections where lawful and technically practicable.

(c) Agencies shall protect confidential business information, tax information, personal information, and cybersecurity-sensitive information as required by law.

Sec. 7. Review of Civil Penalties and Compliance Assistance.

(a) Agencies shall review whether existing policies appropriately distinguish good-faith first-time or technical violations from willful, fraudulent, repeated, reckless, or dangerous misconduct.

(b) Where authorized by law and consistent with public safety, agencies should provide clear compliance assistance and reasonable opportunities to correct minor non-willful violations before imposing disproportionate penalties.

(c) Nothing in this order limits penalties, emergency action, injunctions, recalls, shutdown authority, or other enforcement where necessary and legally authorized to address serious hazards, fraud, intentional misconduct, or continuing violations.

Sec. 8. Protection of Independent and Family-Owned Businesses.

(a) Agencies shall evaluate whether federal requirements create unnecessary barriers to entry or expansion for independent contractors, sole proprietors, family businesses, farms, tradespeople, and small manufacturers.

(b) Agencies shall identify regulatory structures that unintentionally favor large incumbent firms because only those firms can reasonably absorb excessive administrative costs.

(c) Recommendations shall preserve lawful worker classification, wage, safety, tax, and other statutory protections.

Sec. 9. Regulatory Transparency and Guidance.

(a) Agencies shall clearly distinguish binding legal requirements from recommendations, frequently asked questions, manuals, speeches, informal communications, and other nonbinding guidance.

(b) Significant agency guidance affecting regulated entities shall be publicly accessible to the extent permitted by law.

(c) Agencies shall not use nonbinding guidance as a substitute for legally required rulemaking when establishing binding obligations.

Sec. 10. Retrospective Review of Existing Regulations.

(a) Agencies shall establish a process for periodic retrospective review of significant regulations whose economic or operational effects materially differ from the assumptions used when adopted.

(b) Reviews shall consider effectiveness, compliance costs, technological change, market conditions, unintended consequences, duplication with State or federal requirements, and continued statutory necessity.

(c) Modification or repeal shall follow all procedures required by the Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable law.

Sec. 11. Small Business Enforcement Fairness.

(a) Federal inspections and enforcement shall be based on law, evidence, risk, and established enforcement criteria rather than political affiliation, personal connections, protected speech, or an entity's ability to influence government officials.

(b) Agencies shall provide regulated parties notice of alleged violations and an opportunity to respond where required by law.

(c) Nothing in this order prevents unannounced inspections, emergency actions, investigations, or other procedures authorized by law when advance notice would undermine enforcement or public safety.

Sec. 12. Federal Contracting Opportunities for Small Businesses.

(a) Agencies shall review unnecessary barriers preventing qualified small businesses from competing for federal procurement opportunities.

(b) Contracting agencies shall examine excessive bundling, unnecessarily restrictive qualification requirements, delayed payment, and administrative requirements that may improperly exclude capable small firms.

(c) Nothing in this section alters statutory small-business contracting programs, competition requirements, procurement-integrity rules, or responsibility standards.

Sec. 13. Regulatory Cost and Benefit Accountability.

(a) To the extent required or permitted by law, agencies shall identify significant anticipated benefits, costs, alternatives, and distributional effects when developing major regulatory actions.

(b) Agencies shall not manipulate assumptions, selectively omit material information, or predetermine analytical results for political purposes.

(c) Regulatory analysis shall recognize benefits that may be difficult to monetize, including protection of life, health, safety, national security, environmental resources, and statutory rights.

Sec. 14. Small Business Regulatory Advisory Council.

(a) The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall convene a Small Business Regulatory Advisory Council composed of appropriate federal officials and structured opportunities for input from small businesses, farmers, manufacturers, trades, entrepreneurs, and other affected stakeholders.

(b) The Council shall identify recurring federal barriers and recommend lawful administrative reforms.

(c) Participation shall comply with applicable ethics, transparency, advisory-committee, and conflict-of-interest requirements.

Sec. 15. 120-Day Regulatory Relief Action Plan.

(a) Within 120 days, OMB and the Small Business Administration shall submit to the President a government-wide Regulatory Relief Action Plan.

(b) The plan shall identify regulations and processes proposed for simplification, modernization, consolidation, amendment, or repeal; expected effects on small entities; required legal procedures; and measurable implementation deadlines.

(c) The plan shall separately identify statutory mandates that cannot be changed by executive action and recommend legislation where appropriate.

Sec. 16. General Provisions.

(a) Nothing in this order shall impair authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, an independent regulatory agency, or the functions of the Director of OMB relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) Nothing in this order authorizes an agency to ignore the Administrative Procedure Act, Regulatory Flexibility Act, Paperwork Reduction Act, binding court orders, statutory deadlines, or substantive protections established by Congress.

(d) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, officers, employees, agents, or any other person.

THE WHITE HOUSE,

January 20, 2029.

DRAFTING NOTE

This order directs regulatory review and administrative simplification within existing executive authority. Repeal or amendment of regulations remains subject to the Administrative Procedure Act and other governing statutes, while statutory requirements that cannot be changed administratively are identified for proposed legislation to Congress.