

Whereas The Chinese government and people benefit substantially from the continuation of such trading benefits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That (a) the United States Senate expresses its condemnation of the arrest of Peter H. Wu and its deep concern for his well-being.

(b) It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the People's Republic of China must immediately comply with its commitments under the United States-People's Republic of China Consular Convention of February 19, 1982, by allowing consular access to Peter H. Wu;

(2) the People's Republic of China should provide immediately a full accounting of Peter Wu's whereabouts and the charges being brought against him; and

(3) the President of the United States should use every diplomatic means available to ensure Peter Wu's safe and expeditious return to United States.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States with the request that the President further transmit such copy to the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE COMPREHENSIVE REGULATORY REFORM ACT OF 1995

DOLE (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 1487

Mr. DOLE (for himself, Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HEFLIN, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. ROTH, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BOND, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BROWN, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. KYL, Mr. BREAUX, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. GRAMS, and Mr. LOTT) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 343) to reform the regulatory process, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Comprehensive Regulatory Reform Act of 1995".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

Section 551 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "this subchapter" and inserting "this chapter and chapters 7 and 8";

(2) in paragraph (13), by striking "and";

(3) in paragraph (14), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(15) 'Director' means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget."

SEC. 3. RULEMAKING.

Section 553 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 553. Rulemaking

"(a) **APPLICABILITY.**—This section applies to every rulemaking, according to the provisions thereof, except to the extent that there is involved—

"(1) a matter pertaining to a military or foreign affairs function of the United States;

"(2) a matter relating to the management or personnel practices of an agency;

"(3) an interpretive rule, general statement of policy, guidance, or rule of agency

organization, procedure, or practice, unless such rule, statement, or guidance has general applicability and substantially alters or creates rights or obligations of persons outside the agency; or

"(4) a rule relating to the acquisition, management, or disposal by an agency of real or personal property, or of services, that is promulgated in compliance with otherwise applicable criteria and procedures.

"(b) **NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING.**—General notice of proposed rulemaking shall be published in the Federal Register, unless all persons subject thereto are named and either personally served or otherwise have actual notice of the proposed rulemaking in accordance with law. Each notice of proposed rulemaking shall include—

"(1) a statement of the time, place, and nature of public rulemaking proceedings;

"(2) a succinct explanation of the need for and specific objectives of the proposed rule, including an explanation of the agency's determination of whether or not the rule is a major rule within the meaning of section 621(5);

"(3) a succinct explanation of the specific statutory basis for the proposed rule, including an explanation of—

"(A) whether the interpretation is clearly required by the text of the statute; or

"(B) if the interpretation is not clearly required by the text of the statute, an explanation that the interpretation is within the range of permissible interpretations of the statute as identified by the agency, and an explanation why the interpretation selected by the agency is the agency's preferred interpretation;

"(4) the terms or substance of the proposed rule;

"(5) a summary of any initial analysis of the proposed rule required to be prepared or issued pursuant to chapter 6;

"(6) a statement that the agency seeks proposals from the public and from State and local governments for alternative methods to accomplish the objectives of the rulemaking that are more effective or less burdensome than the approach used in the proposed rule; and

"(7) a statement specifying where the file of the rulemaking proceeding maintained pursuant to subsection (j) may be inspected and how copies of the items in the file may be obtained.

"(c) **PERIOD FOR COMMENT.**—The agency shall give interested persons not less than 60 days after providing the notice required by subsection (b) to participate in the rulemaking through the submission of written data, views, or arguments.

"(d) **GOOD CAUSE EXCEPTION.**—Unless notice or hearing is required by statute, a final rule may be adopted and may become effective without prior compliance with subsections (b) and (c) and (e) through (g) if the agency for good cause finds that providing notice and public procedure thereon before the rule becomes effective is impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest. If a rule is adopted under this subsection, the agency shall publish the rule in the Federal Register with the finding and a succinct explanation of the reasons therefor.

"(e) **PROCEDURAL FLEXIBILITY.**—To collect relevant information, and to identify and elicit full and representative public comment on the significant issues of a particular rulemaking, the agency may use such other procedures as the agency determines are appropriate, including—

"(1) the publication of an advance notice of proposed rulemaking;

"(2) the provision of notice, in forms which are more direct than notice published in the Federal Register, to persons who would be substantially affected by the proposed rule

but who are unlikely to receive notice of the proposed rulemaking through the Federal Register;

"(3) the provision of opportunities for oral presentation of data, views, information, or rebuttal arguments at informal public hearings, meetings, and round table discussions, which may be held in the District of Columbia and other locations;

"(4) the establishment of reasonable procedures to regulate the course of informal public hearings, meetings and round table discussions, including the designation of representatives to make oral presentations or engage in direct or cross-examination on behalf of several parties with a common interest in a rulemaking, and the provision of transcripts, summaries, or other records of all such public hearings and summaries of meetings and round table discussions;

"(5) the provision of summaries, explanatory materials, or other technical information in response to public inquiries concerning the issues involved in the rulemaking; and

"(6) the adoption or modification of agency procedural rules to reduce the cost or complexity of the procedural rules.

"(f) **PLANNED FINAL RULE.**—If the provisions of a final rule that an agency plans to adopt are so different from the provisions of the original notice of proposed rulemaking that the original notice did not fairly apprise the public of the issues ultimately to be resolved in the rulemaking or of the substance of the rule, the agency shall publish in the Federal Register a notice of the final rule the agency plans to adopt, together with the information relevant to such rule that is required by the applicable provisions of this section and that has not previously been published in the Federal Register. The agency shall allow a reasonable period for comment on such planned final rule prior to its adoption.

"(g) **STATEMENT OF BASIS AND PURPOSE.**—An agency shall publish each final rule it adopts in the Federal Register, together with a concise statement of the basis and purpose of the rule and a statement of when the rule may become effective. The statement of basis and purpose shall include—

"(1) an explanation of the need for, objectives of, and specific statutory authority for, the rule;

"(2) a discussion of, and response to, any significant factual or legal issues presented by the rule, or raised by the comments on the proposed rule, including a description of the reasonable alternatives to the rule proposed by the agency and by interested persons, and the reasons why such alternatives were rejected;

"(3) a succinct explanation of whether the specific statutory basis for the rule is expressly required by the text of the statute, or if the specific statutory interpretation upon which the rule is based is not expressly required by the text of the statute, an explanation that the interpretation is within the range of permissible interpretations of the statute as identified by the agency, and why the agency has rejected other interpretations proposed in comments to the agency;

"(4) an explanation of how the factual conclusions upon which the rule is based are substantially supported in the rulemaking file; and

"(5) a summary of any final analysis of the rule required to be prepared or issued pursuant to chapter 6.

"(h) **NONAPPLICABILITY.**—In the case of a rule that is required by statute to be made on the record after opportunity for an agency hearing, sections 556 and 557 shall apply in lieu of subsections (c), (e), (f), and (g).

"(i) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—An agency shall publish the final rule in the Federal Register

not later than 60 days before the effective date of such rule. An agency may make a rule effective in less than 60 days after publication in the Federal Register if the rule grants or recognizes an exemption, relieves a restriction, or if the agency for good cause finds that such a delay in the effective date would be contrary to the public interest and publishes such finding and an explanation of the reasons therefor, with the final rule.

“(j) RULEMAKING FILE.—(1) The agency shall maintain a file for each rulemaking proceeding conducted pursuant to this section and shall maintain a current index to such file.

“(2) Except as provided in subsection (k), the file shall be made available to the public not later than the date on which the agency makes an initial publication concerning the rule.

“(3) The rulemaking file shall include—

“(A) the notice of proposed rulemaking, any supplement to, or modification or revision of, such notice, and any advance notice of proposed rulemaking;

“(B) copies of all written comments received on the proposed rule;

“(C) a transcript, summary, or other record of any public hearing conducted on the rulemaking;

“(D) copies, or an identification of the place at which copies may be obtained, of factual and methodological material that pertains directly to the rulemaking and that was considered by the agency in connection with the rulemaking, or that was submitted to or prepared by or for the agency in connection with the rulemaking; and

“(E) any statement, description, analysis, or other material that the agency is required to prepare or issue in connection with the rulemaking, including any analysis prepared or issued pursuant to chapter 6.

The agency shall place each of the foregoing materials in the file as soon as practicable after each such material becomes available to the agency.

“(k) CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT.—The file required by subsection (j) need not include any material described in section 552(b) if the agency includes in the file a statement that notes the existence of such material and the basis upon which the material is exempt from public disclosure under such section. The agency may not substantially rely on any such material in formulating a rule unless it makes the substance of such material available for adequate comment by interested persons. The agency may use summaries, aggregations of data, or other appropriate mechanisms to protect the confidentiality of such material to the maximum extent possible.

“(l) RULEMAKING PETITION.—(1) Each agency shall give an interested person the right to petition—

“(A) for the issuance, amendment, or repeal of a rule;

“(B) for the amendment or repeal of an interpretive rule or general statement of policy or guidance; and

“(C) for an interpretation regarding the meaning of a rule, interpretive rule, general statement of policy, or guidance.

“(2) The agency shall grant or deny a petition made pursuant to paragraph (1), and give written notice of its determination to the petitioner, with reasonable promptness, but in no event later than 18 months after the petition was received by the agency.

“(3) The written notice of the agency's determination shall include an explanation of the determination and a response to each significant factual and legal claim that forms the basis of the petition.

“(m) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—(1) The decision of an agency to use or not to use procedures in

a rulemaking under subsection (e) shall not be subject to judicial review.

“(2) The rulemaking file required under subsection (j) shall constitute the rulemaking record for purposes of judicial review.

“(3) No court shall hold unlawful or set aside an agency rule based on a violation of subsection (j), unless the court finds that such violation has precluded fair public consideration of a material issue of the rulemaking taken as a whole.

“(4)(A) Judicial review of compliance or noncompliance with subsection (j) shall be limited to review of action or inaction on the part of an agency.

“(B) A decision by an agency to deny a petition under subsection (l) shall be subject to judicial review immediately upon denial, as final agency action under the statute granting the agency authority to carry out its action.

“(n) CONSTRUCTION.—(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this section shall apply to and supplement the procedures governing informal rulemaking under statutes that are not generally subject to this section.

“(2) Nothing in this section authorizes the use of appropriated funds available to any agency to pay the attorney's fees or other expenses of persons intervening in agency proceedings.”

SEC. 4. ANALYSIS OF AGENCY RULES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SUBCHAPTER II—ANALYSIS OF AGENCY RULES

“§ 621. Definitions

“For purposes of this subchapter—

“(1) except as otherwise provided, the definitions under section 551 shall apply to this subchapter;

“(2) the term ‘benefit’ means the reasonably identifiable significant favorable effects, quantifiable and nonquantifiable, including social, environmental, health, and economic effects, that are expected to result directly or indirectly from implementation of a rule or other agency action;

“(3) the term ‘cost’ means the reasonably identifiable significant adverse effects, quantifiable and nonquantifiable, including social, environmental, health, and economic effects that are expected to result directly or indirectly from implementation of a rule or other agency action;

“(4) the term ‘cost-benefit analysis’ means an evaluation of the costs and benefits of a rule, quantified to the extent feasible and appropriate and otherwise qualitatively described, that is prepared in accordance with the requirements of this subchapter at the level of detail appropriate and practicable for reasoned decisionmaking on the matter involved, taking into consideration the significance and complexity of the decision and any need for expedition;

“(5) the term ‘major rule’ means—

“(A) a rule or set of closely related rules that the agency proposing the rule, the Director, or a designee of the President determines is likely to have a gross annual effect on the economy of \$50,000,000 or more in reasonably quantifiable increased costs; or

“(B) a rule that is otherwise designated a major rule by the agency proposing the rule, the Director, or a designee of the President (and a designation or failure to designate under this clause shall not be subject to judicial review);

“(6) the term ‘market-based mechanism’ means a regulatory program that—

“(A) imposes legal accountability for the achievement of an explicit regulatory objective on each regulated person;

“(B) affords maximum flexibility to each regulated person in complying with mandatory regulatory objectives, which flexibility shall, where feasible and appropriate, include, but not be limited to, the opportunity to transfer to, or receive from, other persons, including for cash or other legal consideration, increments of compliance responsibility established by the program; and

“(C) permits regulated persons to respond to changes in general economic conditions and in economic circumstances directly pertinent to the regulatory program without affecting the achievement of the program's explicit regulatory mandates;

“(7) the term ‘performance-based standards’ means requirements, expressed in terms of outcomes or goals rather than mandatory means of achieving outcomes or goals, that permit the regulated entity discretion to determine how best to meet specific requirements in particular circumstances;

“(8) the term ‘reasonable alternatives’ means the range of reasonable regulatory options that the agency has authority to consider under the statute granting rulemaking authority, including flexible regulatory options of the type described in section 622(c)(2)(C)(iii), unless precluded by the statute granting the rulemaking authority; and

“(9) the term ‘rule’ has the same meaning as in section 551(4), and—

“(A) includes any statement of general applicability that substantially alters or creates rights or obligations of persons outside the agency; and

“(B) does not include—

“(i) a rule that involves the internal revenue laws of the United States, or the assessment and collection of taxes, duties, or other revenues or receipts;

“(ii) a rule or agency action that implements an international trade agreement to which the United States is a party;

“(iii) a rule or agency action that authorizes the introduction into commerce, or recognizes the marketable status, of a product;

“(iv) a rule exempt from notice and public procedure under section 553(a);

“(v) a rule or agency action relating to the public debt;

“(vi) a rule required to be promulgated at least annually pursuant to statute, or that provides relief, in whole or in part, from a statutory prohibition, other than a rule promulgated pursuant to subtitle C of title II of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6921 et seq.);

“(vii) a rule of particular applicability that approves or prescribes the future rates, wages, prices, services, corporate or financial structures, reorganizations, mergers, acquisitions, accounting practices, or disclosures bearing on any of the foregoing;

“(viii) a rule relating to monetary policy or to the safety or soundness of federally insured depository institutions or any affiliate of such an institution (as defined in section 2(k) of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841(k))), credit unions, Federal Home Loan Banks, government sponsored housing enterprises, farm credit institutions, foreign banks that operate in the United States and their affiliates, branches, agencies, commercial lending companies, or representative offices, (as those terms are defined in section 1 of the International Banking Act of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 3101));

“(ix) a rule relating to the payment system or the protection of deposit insurance funds or the farm credit insurance fund;

“(x) any order issued in a rate or certificate proceeding by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or a rule of general applicability that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission certifies would increase

reliance on competitive market forces or reduce regulatory burdens;

“(xi) a rule or order relating to the financial responsibility of brokers and dealers or futures commission merchants, the safeguarding of investor securities and funds or commodity future or options customer securities and funds, the clearance and settlement of securities, futures, or options transactions, or the suspension of trading under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.) or emergency action taken under the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), or a rule relating to the protection of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation, that is promulgated under the Securities Investor Protection Act of 1970 (15 U.S.C. 78aaa et seq.); or

“(xii) a rule that involves the international trade laws of the United States.

“§ 622. Rulemaking cost-benefit analysis

“(a) DETERMINATIONS FOR MAJOR RULE.—Prior to publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking for any rule (or, in the case of a notice of proposed rulemaking that has been published but not issued as a final rule on or before the date of enactment of this subchapter, not later than 30 days after such date of enactment), each agency shall determine—

“(1) whether the rule is or is not a major rule within the meaning of section 621(5)(A)(i) and, if it is not, whether it should be designated as a major rule under section 621(5)(B); and

“(2) if the agency determines that the rule is a major rule, or otherwise designates it as a major rule, whether the rule requires or does not require the preparation of a risk assessment under section 632(a).

“(b) DESIGNATION.—(1) If an agency has determined that a rule is not a major rule within the meaning of section 621(5)(A) and has not designated the rule as a major rule within the meaning of section 621(5)(B), the Director or a designee of the President may, as appropriate, determine that the rule is a major rule or designate the rule as a major rule not later than 30 days after the publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking for the rule (or, in the case of a notice of proposed rulemaking that has been published on or before the date of enactment of this subchapter, not later than 1 year after such date of enactment).

“(2) Such determination or designation shall be published in the Federal Register, together with a succinct statement of the basis for the determination or designation.

“(c) INITIAL COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS.—(1)(A) When the agency publishes a notice of proposed rulemaking for a major rule, the agency shall issue and place in the rulemaking file an initial cost-benefit analysis, and shall include a summary of such analysis in the notice of proposed rulemaking.

“(B)(i) When an agency, the Director, or a designee of the President has published a determination or designation that a rule is a major rule after the publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking for the rule, the agency shall promptly issue and place in the rulemaking file an initial cost-benefit analysis for the rule and shall publish in the Federal Register a summary of such analysis.

“(ii) Following the issuance of an initial cost-benefit analysis under clause (i), the agency shall give interested persons an opportunity to comment in the same manner as if the initial cost-benefit analysis had been issued with the notice of proposed rulemaking.

“(2) Each initial cost-benefit analysis shall contain—

“(A) a succinct analysis of the benefits of the proposed rule, including any beneficial effects that cannot be quantified, and an ex-

planation of how the agency anticipates such benefits will be achieved by the proposed rule, including a description of the persons or classes of persons likely to receive such benefits;

“(B) a succinct analysis of the costs of the proposed rule, including any costs that cannot be quantified, and an explanation of how the agency anticipates such costs will result from the proposed rule, including a description of the persons or classes of persons likely to bear such costs;

“(C) a succinct description (including an analysis of the costs and benefits) of reasonable alternatives for achieving the objectives of the statute, including, where such alternatives exist, alternatives that—

“(i) require no government action, where the agency has discretion under the statute granting the rulemaking authority not to promulgate a rule;

“(ii) will accommodate differences among geographic regions and among persons with differing levels of resources with which to comply;

“(iii) employ performance-based standards, market-based mechanisms, or other flexible regulatory options that permit the greatest flexibility in achieving the regulatory result that the statutory provision authorizing the rule is designed to produce; or

“(iv) employ voluntary standards;

“(D) in any case in which the proposed rule is based on one or more scientific evaluations, scientific information, or a risk assessment, or is subject to the risk assessment requirements of subchapter III, a description of the actions undertaken by the agency to verify the quality, reliability, and relevance of such scientific evaluation, scientific information, or risk assessment; and

“(E) an explanation of how the proposed rule is likely to meet the decisional criteria of section 624.

“(d) FINAL COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS.—(1) When the agency publishes a final major rule, the agency shall also issue and place in the rulemaking file a final cost-benefit analysis, and shall include a summary of the analysis in the statement of basis and purpose.

“(2) Each final cost-benefit analysis shall contain—

“(A) a description and comparison of the benefits and costs of the rule and of the reasonable alternatives to the rule described in the rulemaking record, including flexible regulatory options of the type described in subsection (c)(2)(C)(iii), and a description of the persons likely to receive such benefits and bear such costs; and

“(B) an analysis, based upon the rulemaking record considered as a whole, of how the rule meets the decisional criteria in section 624.

“(3) In considering the benefits and costs, the agency, when appropriate, shall consider the benefits and costs incurred by all of the affected persons or classes of persons (including specially affected subgroups).

“(e) REQUIREMENTS FOR COST-BENEFIT ANALYSES.—(1)(A) The description of the benefits and costs of a proposed and a final rule required under this section shall include, to the extent feasible, a quantification or numerical estimate of the quantifiable benefits and costs.

“(B) The quantification or numerical estimate shall—

“(i) be made in the most appropriate unit of measurement, using comparable assumptions, including time periods;

“(ii) specify the ranges of predictions; and

“(iii) explain the margins of error involved in the quantification methods and the uncertainties and variabilities in the estimates used.

“(C) An agency shall describe the nature and extent of the nonquantifiable benefits

and costs of a final rule pursuant to this section in as precise and succinct a manner as possible.

“(D) The agency evaluation of the relationship of benefits to costs shall be clearly articulated.

“(E) An agency shall not be required to make such evaluation primarily on a mathematical or numerical basis.

“(F) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to expand agency authority beyond the delegated authority arising from the statute granting the rulemaking authority.

“(2) Where practicable and when understanding industry-by-industry effects is of central importance to a rulemaking, the description of the benefits and costs of a proposed and final rule required under this section shall describe such benefits and costs on an industry by industry basis.

“(f) HEALTH, SAFETY, OR EMERGENCY EXEMPTION FROM COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS.—(1) A major rule may be adopted and may become effective without prior compliance with this subchapter if—

“(A) the agency for good cause finds that conducting cost-benefit analysis is impracticable due to an emergency or health or safety threat that is likely to result in significant harm to the public or natural resources; and

“(B) the agency publishes in the Federal Register, together with such finding, a succinct statement of the basis for the finding.

“(2) Not later than 180 days after the promulgation of a final major rule to which this section applies, the agency shall comply with the provisions of this subchapter and, as thereafter necessary, revise the rule.

“§ 623. Agency regulatory review

“(a) PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE FOR RULES.—(1) Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, and every 5 years thereafter, the head of each agency shall publish in the Federal Register a notice of proposed rulemaking under section 553 that contains a preliminary schedule of rules selected for review under this section by the head of the agency and in the sole discretion of the head of the agency, and request public comment thereon, including suggestions for additional rules warranting review. The agency shall allow at least 180 days for public comment.

“(2) In selecting rules for the preliminary schedule, the head of the agency shall consider the extent to which, in the judgment of the head of the agency—

“(A) a rule is unnecessary, and the agency has discretion under the statute authorizing the rule to repeal the rule;

“(B) a rule would not meet the decisional criteria of section 624, and the agency has discretion under the statute authorizing the rule to repeal the rule; or

“(C) a rule could be revised in a manner allowed by the statute authorizing the rule so as to—

“(i) substantially decrease costs;

“(ii) substantially increase benefits; or

“(iii) provide greater flexibility for regulated entities, through mechanisms including, but not limited to, those listed in section 622(c)(2)(C)(iii).

“(3) The preliminary schedule under this subsection shall propose deadlines for review of each rule listed thereon, and such deadlines shall occur not later than 11 years from the date of publication of the preliminary schedule.

“(4) Any interpretive rule, general statement of policy, or guidance that has the force and effect of a rule under section 621(9) shall be treated as a rule for purposes of this section.

“(b) SCHEDULE.—(1) Not later than 1 year after publication of a preliminary schedule under subsection (a), and subject to subsection (c), the head of each agency shall publish a final rule that establishes a schedule of rules to be reviewed by the agency under this section.

“(2) The schedule shall establish a deadline for completion of the review of each rule listed on the schedule, taking into account the criteria in subsection (d) and comments received in the rulemaking under subsection (a). Each such deadline shall occur not later than 11 years from the date of publication of the preliminary schedule.

“(3) The schedule shall contain, at a minimum, all rules listed on the preliminary schedule.

“(4) The head of the agency shall modify the agency's schedule under this section to reflect any change ordered by the court under subsection (e) or subsection (g)(3) or contained in an appropriations Act under subsection (f).

“(c) PETITIONS AND COMMENTS PROPOSING ADDITION OF RULES TO THE SCHEDULE.—(1) Notwithstanding section 553(l), a petition to amend or repeal a major rule or an interpretative rule, general statement of policy, or guidance on grounds arising under this subchapter may only be filed during the 180-day comment period under subsection (a) and not at any other time. Such petition shall be reviewed only in accordance with this subsection.

“(2) The head of the agency shall, in response to petitions received during the rulemaking to establish the schedule, place on the final schedule for the completion of review within the first 3 years of the schedule any rule for which a petition, on its face, together with any relevant comments received in the rulemaking under subsection (a), establishes that there is a substantial likelihood that, considering the future impact of the rule—

“(A) the rule is a major rule under section 621(5)(A); and

(B) the head of the agency would not be able to make the findings required by section 624 with respect to the rule.

“(3) For the purposes of paragraph (2), the head of the agency may consolidate multiple petitions on the same rule into 1 determination with respect to review of the rule.

“(4) The head of the agency may, at the sole discretion of the head of the agency, add to the schedule any other rule suggested by a commentator during the rulemaking under subsection (a).

“(d) CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING DEADLINES FOR REVIEW.—The schedules in subsections (a) and (b) shall establish deadlines for review of each rule on the schedule that take into account—

“(1) the extent to which, for a particular rule, the preliminary views of the agency are that—

“(A) the rule is unnecessary, and the agency has discretion under the statute authorizing the rule to repeal the rule;

“(B) the rule would not meet the decisional criteria of section 624, and the agency has discretion under the statute authorizing the rule to repeal the rule; or

“(C) the rule could be revised in a manner allowed by the statute authorizing the rule so as to meet the decisional criteria under section 624 and to—

“(i) substantially decrease costs;

“(ii) substantially increase benefits; or

“(iii) provide greater flexibility for regulated entities, through mechanisms including, but not limited to, those listed in section 622(c)(2)(C)(iii);

“(2) the importance of each rule relative to other rules being reviewed under this section; and

“(3) the resources expected to be available to the agency under subsection (f) to carry out the reviews under this section.

“(e) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—(1) Notwithstanding section 625 and except as provided otherwise in this subsection, agency compliance or noncompliance with the requirements of this section shall be subject to judicial review in accordance with section 706 of this title.

“(2) The United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit shall have exclusive jurisdiction to review agency action pursuant to subsections (a), (b), and (c).

“(3) A petition for review of final agency action under subsection (b) or subsection (c) shall be filed not later than 60 days after the agency publishes the final rule under subsection (b).

“(4) The court upon review, for good cause shown, may extend the 3-year deadline under subsection (c)(2) for a period not to exceed 1 additional year.

“(5) The court shall remand to the agency any schedule under subsection (b) only if final agency action under subsection (b) is arbitrary or capricious. Agency action under subsection (d) shall not be subject to judicial review.

“(f) ANNUAL BUDGET.—(1) The President's annual budget proposal submitted under section 1105(a) of title 31 for each agency subject to this section shall—

“(A) identify as a separate sum the amount requested to be appropriated for implementation of this section during the upcoming fiscal year; and

“(B) include a list of rules which may terminate during the year for which the budget proposal is made.

“(2) Amendments to the schedule under subsection (b) that change a deadline for review of a rule may be included in annual appropriations Acts for the relevant agencies. An authorizing committee with jurisdiction may submit, to the House of Representatives or Senate appropriations committee (as the case may be), amendments to the schedule published by an agency under subsection (b) that change a deadline for review of a rule. The appropriations committee to which such amendments have been submitted shall include or propose the amendments in the annual appropriations Act for the relevant agency. Each agency shall modify its schedule under subsection (b) to reflect such amendments that are enacted into law.

“(g) REVIEW OF RULE.—(1) For each rule on the schedule under subsection (b), the agency shall—

“(A) not later than 2 years before the deadline in such schedule, publish in the Federal Register a notice that solicits public comment regarding whether the rule should be continued, amended, or repealed;

“(B) not later than 1 year before the deadline in such schedule, publish in the Federal Register a notice that—

“(i) addresses public comments generated by the notice in subparagraph (A);

“(ii) contains a preliminary analysis provided by the agency of whether the rule is a major rule, and if so, whether it satisfies the decisional criteria of section 624;

“(iii) contains a preliminary determination as to whether the rule should be continued, amended, or repealed; and

“(iv) solicits public comment on the preliminary determination for the rule; and

“(C) not later than 60 days before the deadline in such schedule, publish in the Federal Register a final notice on the rule that—

“(i) addresses public comments generated by the notice in subparagraph (B); and

“(ii) contains a final determination of whether to continue, amend, or repeal the rule; and

“(iii) if the agency determines to continue the rule and the rule is a major rule, con-

tains findings necessary to satisfy the decisional criteria of section 624; and

“(iv) if the agency determines to amend the rule, contains a notice of proposed rulemaking under section 553.

“(2) If the final determination of the agency is to continue or repeal the rule, that determination shall take effect 60 days after the publication in the Federal Register of the notice in paragraph (1)(C).

“(3) An interested party may petition the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to extend the period for review of a rule on the schedule for up to two years and to grant such equitable relief as is appropriate, if such petition establishes that—

“(A) the rule is likely to terminate under subsection (i);

“(B) the agency needs additional time to complete the review under this subsection;

“(C) terminating the rule would not be in the public interest; and

“(D) the agency has not expeditiously completed its review.

“(h) DEADLINE FOR FINAL AGENCY ACTION ON MODIFIED RULE.—If an agency makes a determination to amend a major rule under subsection (g)(1)(C)(ii), the agency shall complete final agency action with regard to such rule not later than 2 years of the date of publication of the notice in subsection (g)(1)(C) containing such determination. Nothing in this subsection shall limit the discretion of an agency to decide, after having proposed to modify a major rule, not to promulgate such modification. Such decision shall constitute final agency action for the purposes of judicial review.

“(i) TERMINATION OF RULES.—If the head of an agency has not completed the review of a rule by the deadline established in the schedule published or modified pursuant to subsection (b) and subsection (c), the head of the agency shall not enforce the rule, and the rule shall terminate by operation of law as of such date.

“(j) FINAL AGENCY ACTION.—(1) The final determination of an agency to continue or repeal a major rule under subsection (g)(1)(C) shall be considered final agency action.

“(2) Failure to promulgate an amended major rule or to make other decisions required by subsection (h) by the date established under such subsection shall be considered final agency action.

“§ 624. Decisional criteria

“(a) CONSTRUCTION WITH OTHER LAWS.—The requirements of this section shall supplement, and not supersede, any other decisional criteria otherwise provided by law.

“(b) REQUIREMENTS.—Except as provided in subsection (c), no final major rule subject to this subchapter shall be promulgated unless the agency head publishes in the Federal Register a finding that—

“(1) the benefits from the rule justify the costs of the rule;

“(2) the rule employs to the extent practicable flexible reasonable alternatives of the type described in section 622(c)(2)(C)(iii); and

“(3)(A) the rule adopts the least cost alternative of the reasonable alternatives that achieve the objectives of the statute; or

“(B) if scientific, technical, or economic uncertainties or nonquantifiable benefits to health, safety, or the environment identified by the agency in the rulemaking record make a more costly alternative that achieves the objectives of the statute appropriate and in the public interest and the agency head provides an explanation of those considerations, the rule adopts the least cost alternative of the reasonable alternatives necessary to take into account such uncertainties or benefits; and

“(4) if a risk assessment is required by section 632—

“(A) the rule is likely to significantly reduce the human health, safety, and environmental risks to be addressed; or

“(B) if scientific, technical, or economic uncertainties or nonquantifiable benefits to health, safety, or the environment, preclude making the finding under subparagraph (A), promulgating the final rule is nevertheless justified for reasons stated in writing accompanying the rule and consistent with subchapter III.

“(c) ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENTS.—If, applying the statutory requirements upon which the rule is based, a rule cannot satisfy the criteria of subsection (b), the agency head may promulgate the rule if the agency head finds that—

“(1) the rule employs to the extent practicable flexible reasonable alternatives of the type described in section 622(c)(2)(C)(iii);

“(2)(A) the rule adopts the least cost alternative of the reasonable alternatives that achieve the objectives of the statute; or

“(B) if scientific, technical, or economic uncertainties or nonquantifiable benefits to health, safety, or the environment identified by the agency in the rulemaking record make a more costly alternative that achieves the objectives of the statute appropriate and in the public interest, and the agency head provides an explanation of those considerations, the rule adopts the least cost alternative of the reasonable alternatives necessary to take into account such uncertainties or benefits; and

“(3) if a risk assessment is required by section 632—

“(A) the rule is likely to significantly reduce the human health, safety, and environmental risks to be addressed; or

“(B) if scientific, technical, or economic uncertainties or nonquantifiable benefits to health, safety, or the environment, preclude making the finding under subparagraph (A), promulgating the final rule is nevertheless justified for reasons stated in writing accompanying the rule and consistent with subchapter III.

“(d) PUBLICATION OF REASONS FOR NON-COMPLIANCE.—If an agency promulgates a rule to which subsection (c) applies, the agency head shall prepare a written explanation of why the agency was required to promulgate a rule that does not satisfy the criteria of subsection (b) and shall transmit the explanation with the final cost-benefit analysis to Congress when the final rule is promulgated.

“§ 625. Jurisdiction and judicial review

“(a) REVIEW.—Compliance or noncompliance by an agency with the provisions of this subchapter and subchapter III shall be subject to judicial review only in accordance with this section.

“(b) JURISDICTION.—(1) Except as provided in subsection (e), subject to paragraph (2), each court with jurisdiction under a statute to review final agency action to which this title applies, has jurisdiction to review any claims of noncompliance with this subchapter and subchapter III.

“(2) Except as provided in subsection (e), no claims of noncompliance with this subchapter or subchapter III shall be reviewed separate or apart from judicial review of the final agency action to which they relate.

“(c) RECORD.—Any analysis or review required under this subchapter or subchapter III shall constitute part of the rulemaking record of the final agency action to which it pertains for the purposes of judicial review.

“(d) STANDARDS FOR REVIEW.—In any proceeding involving judicial review under section 706 or under the statute granting the rulemaking authority, failure to comply

with this subchapter or subchapter III may be considered by the court solely for the purpose of determining whether the final agency action is arbitrary and capricious or an abuse of discretion (or unsupported by substantial evidence where that standard is otherwise provided by law).

“(e) INTERLOCUTORY REVIEW.—(1) The United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit shall have jurisdiction to review—

“(A) an agency determination that a rule is not a major rule pursuant to section 622(a); and

“(B) an agency determination that a risk assessment is not required pursuant to section 632(a).

“(2) A petition for review of agency action under paragraph (1) shall be filed within 60 days after the agency makes the determination or certification for which review is sought.

“(3) Except as provided in this subsection, no court shall have jurisdiction to review any agency determination or certification specified in paragraph (1).

“§ 626. Deadlines for rulemaking

“(a) STATUTORY.—All deadlines in statutes that require agencies to propose or promulgate any rule subject to section 622 or subchapter III during the 5-year period beginning on the effective date of this section shall be suspended until the earlier of—

“(1) the date on which the requirements of section 622 or subchapter III are satisfied; or

“(2) the date occurring 2 years after the date of the applicable deadline.

“(b) COURT-ORDERED.—All deadlines imposed by any court of the United States that would require an agency to propose or promulgate a rule subject to section 622 or subchapter III during the 5-year period beginning on the effective date of this section shall be suspended until the earlier of—

“(1) the date on which the requirements of section 622 or subchapter III are satisfied; or

“(2) the date occurring 2 years after the date of the applicable deadline.

“(c) OBLIGATION TO REGULATE.—In any case in which the failure to promulgate a rule by a deadline occurring during the 5-year period beginning on the effective date of this section would create an obligation to regulate through individual adjudications, the deadline shall be suspended until the earlier of—

“(1) the date on which the requirements of section 622 or subchapter III are satisfied; or

“(2) the date occurring 2 years after the date of the applicable deadline.

“§ 627. Special rule

“Notwithstanding any other provision of the Comprehensive Regulatory Reform Act of 1995, or the amendments made by such Act, for purposes of this subchapter and subchapter IV, the head of each appropriate Federal banking agency (as defined in section 3(q) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act), the National Credit Union Administration, the Federal Housing Finance Board, the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, and the Farm Credit Administration, shall have authority with respect to such agency that otherwise would be provided under such subchapters to the Director, a designee of the President, Vice President, or any officer designated or delegated with authority under such subchapters.

“§ 628. Requirements for major environmental management activities

“(a) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘major environmental management activity’ means—

“(1) a corrective action requirement under the Solid Waste Disposal Act;

“(2) a response action or damage assessment under the Comprehensive Environ-

mental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.);

“(3) the treatment, storage, or disposal of radioactive or mixed waste in connection with site restoration activity; and

“(4) Federal guidelines for the conduct of such activity, including site-specific guidelines,

the expected costs, expenses, and damages of which are likely to exceed, in the aggregate, \$10,000,000.

“(b) APPLICABILITY.—A major environmental management activity is subject to this section unless construction has commenced on a significant portion of the activity, and—

“(1) it is more cost-effective to complete construction of the work than to apply the provisions of this subchapter; or

“(2) the application of the provisions of this subchapter, including any delays caused thereby, will result in an actual and immediate risk to human health or welfare.

“(c) REQUIREMENT TO PREPARE RISK ASSESSMENT.—(1) For each major environmental management activity or significant unit thereof that is proposed by the agency after the date of enactment of this subchapter, is pending on the date of enactment of this subchapter, or is subject to a granted petition for review pursuant to section 623, the head of an agency shall prepare—

“(A) a risk assessment in accordance with subchapter III; and

“(B) a cost-benefit analysis equivalent to that which would be required under this subchapter, if such subchapter were applicable.

“(2) In conducting a risk assessment or cost-benefit analysis under this section, the head of the agency shall incorporate the reasonably anticipated probable future use of the land and its surroundings (and any associated media and resources of either) affected by the environmental management activity.

“(3) For actions pending on the date of enactment of this section or proposed during the year following the date of enactment of this section, in lieu of preparing a risk assessment in accordance with subchapter III or cost-benefit analysis under this subchapter, an agency may use other appropriately developed analyses that allow it to make the judgments required under subsection (d).

“(d) REQUIREMENT.—The requirements of this subsection shall supplement, and not supersede, any other requirement provided by any law. A major environmental management activity under this section shall meet the decisional criteria under section 624 as if it is a major rule under such section.

“§ 629. Petition for alternative method of compliance

“(a) Except as provided in subsection (e), or unless prohibited by the statute authorizing the rule, any person subject to a major rule may petition the relevant agency to modify or waive the specific requirements of the major rule (or any portion thereof) and to authorize such person to demonstrate compliance through alternative means not otherwise permitted by the major rule. The petition shall identify with reasonable specificity the requirements for which the waiver is sought and the alternative means of compliance being proposed.

“(b) The agency shall grant the petition if the petition shows that there is a reasonable likelihood that the proposed alternative means of compliance—

“(1) would achieve the identified benefits of the major rule with at least an equivalent level of protection of health, safety, and the environment as would be provided by the major rule; and

“(2) would not impose an undue burden on the agency that would be responsible for enforcing such alternative means of compliance.

“(c) A decision to grant or to deny a petition under this subsection shall be made not later than 180 days after the petition is submitted, but in no event shall agency action taken pursuant to this section be subject to judicial review.

“(d) Following a decision to grant or deny a petition under this section, no further petition for such rule, submitted by the same person, shall be granted unless such petition pertains to a different facility or installation owned or operated by such person or unless such petition is based on a significant change in a fact, circumstance, or provision of law underlying or otherwise related to the rule occurring since the initial petition was granted or denied, that warrants the granting of such petition.

“(e) If the statute authorizing the rule which is the subject of the petition provides procedures or standards for an alternative method of compliance the petition shall be reviewed solely under the terms of the statute.

“SUBCHAPTER III—RISK ASSESSMENTS

“§ 631. Definitions

“For purposes of this subchapter—

“(1) except as otherwise provided, the definitions under section 551 shall apply to this subchapter;

“(2) the term ‘exposure assessment’ means the scientific determination of the intensity, frequency and duration of actual or potential exposures to the hazard in question;

“(3) the term ‘hazard assessment’ means the scientific determination of whether a hazard can cause an increased incidence of one or more significant adverse effects, and a scientific evaluation of the relationship between the degree of exposure to a perceived cause of an adverse effect and the incidence and severity of the effect;

“(4) the term ‘major rule’ has the meaning given such term in section 621(5);

“(5) the term ‘risk assessment’ means the systematic process of organizing and analyzing scientific knowledge and information on potential hazards, including as appropriate for the specific risk involved, hazard assessment, exposure assessment, and risk characterization;

“(6) the term ‘risk characterization’ means the integration and organization of hazard and exposure assessment to estimate the potential for specific harm to an exposed population or natural resource including, to the extent feasible, a characterization of the distribution of risk as well as an analysis of uncertainties, variabilities, conflicting information, and inferences and assumptions in the assessment;

“(7) the term ‘screening analysis’ means an analysis using simple conservative postulates to arrive at an estimate of upper bounds as appropriate, that permits the manager to eliminate risks from further consideration and analysis, or to help establish priorities for agency action; and

“(8) the term ‘substitution risk’ means an increased risk to human health, safety, or the environment reasonably likely to result from a regulatory option.

“§ 632. Applicability

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (c), for each proposed and final major rule, a primary purpose of which is to protect human health, safety, or the environment, or a consequence of which is a substantial substitution risk, that is proposed by an agency after the date of enactment of this subchapter, or is pending on the date of enactment of this subchapter, the head of

each agency shall prepare a risk assessment in accordance with this subchapter.

“(b) APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES.—(1) Except as provided in subsection (c), the head of each agency shall apply the principles in this subchapter to any risk assessment conducted to support a determination by the agency of risk to human health, safety, or the environment, if such determination would be likely to have an effect on the United States economy equivalent to that of a major rule.

“(2) In applying the principles of this subchapter to risk assessments other than those in subsections (a), (b)(1), and (c), the head of each agency shall publish, after notice and public comment, guidelines for the conduct of such other risk assessments that adapt the principles of this subchapter in a manner consistent with section 633(a)(4) and the risk assessment and risk management needs of the agency.

“(3) An agency shall not, as a condition for the issuance or modification of a permit, conduct, or require any person to conduct, a risk assessment, except if the agency finds that the risk assessment meets the requirements of section 633 (a) through (f).

“(c) EXCEPTIONS.—(1) This subchapter shall not apply to risk assessments performed with respect to—

“(A) a situation for which the agency finds good cause that conducting a risk assessment is impracticable due to an emergency or health and safety threat that is likely to result in significant harm to the public or natural resources;

“(B) a rule or agency action that authorizes the introduction into commerce, or initiation of manufacture, of a substance, mixture, or product, or recognizes the marketable status of a product;

“(C) a human health, safety, or environmental inspection, an action enforcing a statutory provision, rule, or permit, or an individual facility or site permitting action, except to the extent provided by subsection (b)(3);

“(D) a screening analysis clearly identified as such; or

“(E) product registrations, reregistrations, tolerance settings, and reviews of premanufacture notices under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.) and the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.).

“(2) An analysis shall not be treated as a screening analysis for the purposes of paragraph (1)(D) if the result of the analysis is used—

“(A) as the basis for imposing a restriction on a previously authorized substance, product, or activity after its initial introduction into manufacture or commerce; or

“(B) as the basis for a formal determination by the agency of significant risk from a substance or activity.

“(3) This subchapter shall not apply to any food, drug, or other product label or labeling, or to any risk characterization appearing on any such label.

“§ 633. Principles for risk assessments

“(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) The head of each agency shall design and conduct risk assessments in a manner that promotes rational and informed risk management decisions and informed public input into the process of making agency decisions.

“(2) The head of each agency shall establish and maintain a distinction between risk assessment and risk management.

“(3) An agency may take into account priorities for managing risks, including the types of information that would be important in evaluating a full range of alternatives, in developing priorities for risk assessment activities.

“(4) In conducting a risk assessment, the head of each agency shall employ the level of detail and rigor considered by the agency as appropriate and practicable for reasoned decisionmaking in the matter involved, proportionate to the significance and complexity of the potential agency action and the need for expedition.

“(5) An agency shall not be required to repeat discussions or explanations in each risk assessment required under this subchapter if there is an unambiguous reference to a relevant discussion or explanation in another reasonably available agency document that was prepared consistent with this section.

“(b) ITERATIVE PROCESS.—(1) Each agency shall develop and use an iterative process for risk assessment, starting with relatively inexpensive screening analyses and progressing to more rigorous analyses, as circumstances or results warrant.

“(2) In determining whether or not to proceed to a more detailed analysis, the head of the agency shall take into consideration whether or not use of additional data or the analysis thereof would significantly change the estimate of risk and the resulting agency action.

“(c) DATA QUALITY.—(1) The head of each agency shall base each risk assessment only on the best reasonably available scientific data and scientific understanding, including scientific information that finds or fails to find a correlation between a potential hazard and an adverse effect, and data regarding exposure and other relevant physical conditions that are reasonably expected to be encountered.

“(2) The agency shall select data for use in a risk assessment based on a reasoned analysis of the quality and relevance of the data, and shall describe such analysis.

“(3) In making its selection of data, the agency shall consider whether the data were published in the peer-reviewed scientific literature, or developed in accordance with good laboratory practice or published or other appropriate protocols to ensure data quality, such as the standards for the development of test data promulgated pursuant to section 4 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2603), and the standards for data requirements promulgated pursuant to section 3 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136a), or other form of independent evaluation.

“(4) Subject to paragraph (3), relevant scientific data submitted by interested parties shall be reviewed and considered by the agency in the analysis under paragraph (2).

“(5) When conflicts among scientific data appear to exist, the risk assessment shall include a discussion of all relevant information including the likelihood of alternative interpretations of the data and emphasizing—

“(A) postulates that represent the most reasonable inferences from the supporting scientific data; and

“(B) when a risk assessment involves an extrapolation from toxicological studies, data with the greatest scientific basis of support for the resulting harm to affected individuals, populations, or resources.

“(6) The head of an agency shall not automatically incorporate or adopt any recommendation or classification made by any foreign government, the United Nations, any international governmental body or standards-making organization, concerning the health effects value of a substance, except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to affect the implementation or application of any treaty or international trade agreement to which the United States is a party.

“(d) USE OF POLICY JUDGMENTS.—(1) An agency shall not use policy judgments, including default assumptions, inferences,

models or safety factors, when relevant and adequate scientific data and scientific understanding, including site-specific data, are available. The agency shall modify or decrease the use of policy judgments to the extent that higher quality scientific data and understanding become available.

“(2) When a risk assessment involves choice of a policy judgment, the head of the agency shall—

“(A) identify the policy judgment and its scientific or policy basis, including the extent to which the policy judgment has been validated by, or conflicts with, empirical data;

“(B) explain the basis for any choices among policy judgments; and

“(C) describe reasonable alternative policy judgments that were not selected by the agency for use in the risk assessment, and the sensitivity of the conclusions of the risk assessment to the alternatives, and the rationale for not using such alternatives.

“(3) An agency shall not inappropriately combine or compound multiple policy judgments.

“(4) The agency shall, subject to notice and opportunity for public comment, develop and publish guidelines describing the agency's default policy judgments and how they were chosen, and guidelines for deciding when and how, in a specific risk assessment, to adopt alternative policy judgments or to use available scientific information in place of a policy judgment.

“(e) **RISK CHARACTERIZATION.**—In each risk assessment, the agency shall include in the risk characterization, as appropriate, each of the following:

“(1) A description of the hazard of concern.

“(2) A description of the populations or natural resources that are the subject of the risk assessment.

“(3) An explanation of the exposure scenarios used in the risk assessment, including an estimate of the corresponding population at risk and the likelihood of such exposure scenarios.

“(4) A description of the nature and severity of the harm that could plausibly occur.

“(5) A description of the major uncertainties in each component of the risk assessment and their influence on the results of the assessment.

“(f) **PRESENTATION OF RISK ASSESSMENT CONCLUSIONS.**—(1) To the extent feasible and scientifically appropriate, the head of an agency shall—

“(A) express the overall estimate of risk as a range or probability distribution that reflects variabilities, uncertainties and data gaps in the analysis;

“(B) provide the range and distribution of risks and the corresponding exposure scenarios, identifying the reasonably expected risk to the general population and, where appropriate, to more highly exposed or sensitive subpopulations; and

“(C) where quantitative estimates of the range and distribution of risk estimates are not available, describe the qualitative factors influencing the range of possible risks.

“(2) When scientific data and understanding that permits relevant comparisons of risk are reasonably available, the agency shall use such information to place the nature and magnitude of risks to human health, safety, and the environment being analyzed in context.

“(3) When scientifically appropriate information on significant substitution risks to human health, safety, or the environment is reasonably available to the agency, or is contained in information provided to the agency by a commentator, the agency shall describe such risks in the risk assessments.

“(g) **PEER REVIEW.**—(1) Each agency shall provide for peer review in accordance with

this section of any risk assessment subject to the requirements of this subchapter that forms that basis of any major rule or a major environmental management activity.

“(2) Each agency shall develop a systematic program for balanced, independent, and external peer review that—

“(A) shall provide for the creation or utilization of peer review panels, expert bodies, or other formal or informal devices that are balanced and comprised of participants selected on the basis of their expertise relevant to the sciences involved in regulatory decisions and who are independent of the agency program that developed the risk assessment being reviewed;

“(B) shall not exclude any person with substantial and relevant expertise as a participant on the basis that such person has a potential interest in the outcome, if such interest is fully disclosed to the agency, and the agency includes such disclosure as part of the record, unless the result of the review would have a direct and predictable effect on a substantial financial interest of such person;

“(C) shall provide for a timely completed peer review, meeting agency deadlines, that contains a balanced presentation of all considerations, including minority reports and agency response to all significant peer review comments; and

“(D) shall provide adequate protections for confidential business information and trade secrets, including requiring panel members to enter into confidentiality agreements.

“(3) Each peer review shall include a report to the Federal agency concerned detailing the scientific and technical merit of data and the methods used for the risk assessment, and shall identify significant peer review comments. Each agency shall provide a written response to all significant peer review comments. All peer review comments, conclusions, composition of the panels, and the agency's responses shall be made available to the public and shall be made part of the administrative record for purposes of judicial review of any final agency action.

“(4)(A) The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall develop a systematic program to oversee the use and quality of peer review of risk assessments.

“(B) The Director or the designee of the President may order an agency to conduct peer review for any risk assessment or cost-benefit analysis that is likely to have a significant impact on public policy decisions, or that would establish an important precedent.

“(5) The proceedings of peer review panels under this section shall not be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

“(h) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**—The head of each agency shall provide appropriate opportunities for public participation and comment on risk assessments.

“**§ 634. Petition for review of a major free-standing risk assessment**

“(a) Any interested person may petition an agency to conduct a scientific review of a risk assessment conducted or adopted by the agency, except for a risk assessment used as the basis for a major rule or a site-specific risk assessment.

“(b) The agency shall utilize external peer review, as appropriate, to evaluate the claims and analyses in the petition, and shall consider such review in making its determination of whether to grant the petition.

“(c) The agency shall grant the petition if the petition establishes that there is a reasonable likelihood that—

“(1)(A) the risk assessment that is the subject of the petition was carried out in a manner substantially inconsistent with the principles in section 633; or

“(B) the risk assessment that is the subject of the petition does not take into account material significant new scientific data and scientific understanding;

“(2) the risk assessment that is the subject of the petition contains significantly different results than if it had been properly conducted pursuant to subchapter III; and

“(3) a revised risk assessment will provide the basis for reevaluating an agency determination of risk, and such determination currently has an effect on the United States economy equivalent to that of major rule.

“(d) A decision to grant, or final action to deny, a petition under this subsection shall be made not later than 180 days after the petition is submitted.

“(e) If the agency grants the petition, it shall complete its review of the risk assessment not later than 1 year after its decision to grant the petition. If the agency revises the risk assessment, in response to its review, it shall do so in accordance with section 633.

“**§ 635. Comprehensive risk reduction**

“(a) **SETTING PRIORITIES.**—The head of each agency with programs to protect human health, safety, or the environment shall set priorities for the use of resources available to address those risks to human health, safety, and the environment, with the goal of achieving the greatest overall net reduction in risks with the public and private sector resources expended.

“(b) **INCORPORATING RISK-BASED PRIORITIES INTO BUDGET AND PLANNING.**—The head of each agency in subsection (a) shall incorporate the priorities identified under subsection (a) into the agency budget, strategic planning, regulatory agenda, enforcement, and research activities. When submitting its budget request to Congress and when announcing its regulatory agenda in the Federal Register, each covered agency shall identify the risks that the covered agency head has determined are the most serious and can be addressed in a cost-effective manner using the priorities set under subsection (a), the basis for that determination, and explicitly identify how the agency's requested budget and regulatory agenda reflect those priorities.

“(c) **REPORTS BY THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.**—(1) Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall enter into an arrangement with the National Academy of Sciences to investigate and report on comparative risk analysis. The arrangement shall provide, to the extent feasible, for—

“(A) 1 or more reports evaluating methods of comparative risk analysis that would be appropriate for agency programs related to human health, safety, and the environment to use in setting priorities for activities; and

“(B) a report providing a comprehensive and comparative analysis of the risks to human health, safety, and the environment that are addressed by agency programs to protect human health, safety, and the environment, along with companion activities to disseminate the conclusions of the report to the public.

“(2) The report or reports prepared under paragraph (1)(A) shall be completed not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this section. The report under paragraph (1)(B) shall be completed not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this section, and shall draw, as appropriate, upon the insights and conclusions of the report or reports made under paragraph (1)(A). The companion activities under paragraph (1)(B) shall be completed not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this section.

“(3)(A) The head of an agency with programs to protect human health, safety, and

the environment shall incorporate the recommendations of reports under paragraph (1) in revising any priorities under subsection (a).

“(B) The head of the agency shall submit a report to the appropriate Congressional committees of jurisdiction responding to the recommendations from the National Academy of Sciences and describing plans for utilizing the results of comparative risk analysis in agency budget, strategic planning, regulatory agenda, enforcement, and research and development activities.

“(4) Following the submission of the report in paragraph (2), for the next 5 years, the head of the agency shall submit, with the budget request submitted to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31, a description of how the requested budget of the agency and the strategic planning activities of the agency reflect priorities determined using the recommendations of reports issued under subsection (a). The head of the agency shall include in such description—

“(A) recommendations on the modification, repeal, or enactment of laws to reform, eliminate, or enhance programs or mandates relating to human health, safety, or the environment; and

“(B) recommendation on the modification or elimination of statutory or judicially mandated deadlines,

that would assist the head of the agency to set priorities in activities to address the risks to human health, safety, or the environment that incorporate the priorities developed using the recommendations of the reports under subsection (a), resulting in more cost-effective programs to address risk.

“(5) For each budget request submitted in accordance with paragraph (4), the Director shall submit an analysis of ways in which resources could be reallocated among Federal agencies to achieve the greatest overall net reduction in risk.

“§ 636. Rule of construction

“Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to—

“(1) preclude the consideration of any data or the calculation of any estimate to more fully describe or analyze risk, scientific uncertainty, or variability; or

“(2) require the disclosure of any trade secret or other confidential information.

“SUBCHAPTER IV—EXECUTIVE OVERSIGHT

“§ 641. Procedures

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director or a designee of the President shall—

“(1) establish and, as appropriate, revise procedures for agency compliance with this chapter; and

“(2) monitor, review, and ensure agency implementation of such procedures.

“(b) PUBLIC COMMENT.—Procedures established pursuant to subsection (a) shall only be implemented after opportunity for public comment. Any such procedures shall be consistent with the prompt completion of rulemaking proceedings.

“(c) TIME FOR REVIEW.—(1) If procedures established pursuant to subsection (a) include review of any initial or final analyses of a rule required under chapter 6, the time for any such review of any initial analysis shall not exceed 90 days following the receipt of the analysis by the Director, or a designee of the President.

“(2) The time for review of any final analysis required under chapter 6 shall not exceed 90 days following the receipt of the analysis by the Director, a designee of the President.

“(3)(A) The times for each such review may be extended for good cause by the President or by an officer to whom the President has

delegated his authority pursuant to section 642 for an additional 45 days. At the request of the head of an agency, the President or such an officer may grant an additional extension of 45 days.

“(B) Notice of any such extension, together with a succinct statement of the reasons therefor, shall be inserted in the rulemaking file.

“§ 642. Delegation of authority

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The President may delegate the authority granted by this subchapter to an officer within the Executive Office of the President whose appointment has been subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

“(b) NOTICE.—Notice of any delegation, or any revocation or modification thereof shall be published in the Federal Register.

“§ 643. Judicial review

“The exercise of the authority granted under this subchapter by the Director, the President, or by an officer to whom such authority has been delegated under section 642 and agency compliance or noncompliance with the procedure under section 641 shall not be subject to judicial review.

“§ 644. Regulatory agenda

“The head of each agency shall provide, as part of the semiannual regulatory agenda published under section 602—

“(1) a list of risk assessments subject to subsection 632 (a) or (b)(1) under preparation or planned by the agency;

“(2) a brief summary of relevant issues addressed or to be addressed by each listed risk assessment;

“(3) an approximate schedule for completing each listed risk assessment;

“(4) an identification of potential rules, guidance, or other agency actions supported or affected by each listed risk assessment; and

“(5) the name, address, and telephone number of an agency official knowledgeable about each listed risk assessment.”

(b) REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS.—(1) FINAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS.—Section 604 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

“(c)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), no final rule for which a final regulatory flexibility analysis is required under this section shall be promulgated unless the agency finds that the final rule minimizes significant economic impact on small entities to the maximum extent possible, consistent with the purposes of this subchapter, the objectives of the rule, and the requirements of applicable statutes.

“(2) If an agency determines that a statute requires a rule to be promulgated that does not satisfy the criterion of paragraph (1), the agency shall—

“(A) include a written explanation of such determination in the final regulatory flexibility analysis; and

“(B) transmit the final regulatory flexibility analysis to Congress when the final rule is promulgated.”

(2) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Section 611 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 611. Judicial review

“(a)(1) For any rule described in section 603(a), and with respect to which the agency—

“(A) certified, pursuant to section 605(b), that such rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities;

“(B) prepared a final regulatory flexibility analysis pursuant to section 604; or

“(C) did not prepare an initial regulatory flexibility analysis pursuant to section 603 or

a final regulatory flexibility analysis pursuant to section 604 except as permitted by sections 605 and 608,

an affected small entity may petition for the judicial review of such certification, analysis, or failure to prepare such analysis, in accordance with this subsection. A court having jurisdiction to review such rule for compliance with section 553 or under any other provision of law shall have jurisdiction over such petition.

“(2)(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an affected small entity shall have 1 year after the effective date of the final rule to challenge the certification, analysis or failure to prepare an analysis required by this subchapter with respect to any such rule.

“(B) If an agency delays the issuance of a final regulatory flexibility analysis pursuant to section 608(b), a petition for judicial review under this subsection may be filed not later than 1 year after the date the analysis is made available to the public.

“(3) For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘affected small entity’ means a small entity that is or will be subject to the provisions of, or otherwise required to comply with, the final rule.

“(4) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit the authority of any court to stay the effective date of any rule or provision thereof under any other provision of law.

“(5)(A) Notwithstanding section 605, if the court determines, on the basis of the court’s review of the rulemaking record, that there is substantial evidence that the rule would have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities, the court shall order the agency to prepare a final regulatory flexibility analysis that satisfies the requirements of section 604.

“(B) If the agency prepared a final regulatory flexibility analysis, the court shall order the agency to take corrective action consistent with section 604 if the court determines, on the basis of the court’s review of the rulemaking record, that the final regulatory flexibility analysis does not satisfy the requirements of section 604.

“(6) The court shall stay the rule and grant such other relief as the court determines to be appropriate if, by the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date of the order of the court pursuant to paragraph (5), the agency fails, as appropriate—

“(A) to prepare the analysis required by section 604; or

“(B) to take corrective action consistent with section 604.

“(b) In an action for the judicial review of a rule, any regulatory flexibility analysis for such rule (including an analysis prepared or corrected pursuant to subsection (a)(5)) shall constitute part of the whole record of agency action in connection with such review.

“(c) Except as otherwise required by the provisions of this subchapter, the court shall apply the same standards of judicial review that govern the review of agency findings under the statute granting the agency authority to conduct the rulemaking.”

(c) REVISION OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE FEDERAL FOOD, DRUG, AND COSMETIC ACT RELATING TO TESTING.—In applying section 409(c)(3)(A), 512(d)(1), or 721(b)(5)(B) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 348(c)(3)(A), 360b(d)(1), 379e(b)(5)(B)), the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall not prohibit or refuse to approve a substance or product on the basis of safety, where the substance or product presents a negligible or insignificant foreseeable risk to human health resulting from its intended use.

(d) TOXIC RELEASE INVENTORY REVIEW.—Section 313(d) of the Emergency Planning

and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 11023(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2) by inserting after “epidemiological or other population studies,” the following: “and on the rule of reason, including a consideration of the applicability of such evidence to levels of the chemical in the environment that may result from reasonably anticipated releases”; and

(2) in subsection (e)(1), by inserting before “Within 180 days” the following: “The Administrator shall grant any petition that establishes substantial evidence that the criteria in subparagraph (A) either are or are not met.”.

(e) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) CHAPTER ANALYSIS.—Part I of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter heading and table of sections for chapter 6 and inserting the following:

“CHAPTER 6—THE ANALYSIS OF REGULATORY FUNCTIONS

“SUBCHAPTER I—REGULATORY ANALYSIS

“Sec.

“601. Definitions.

“602. Regulatory agenda.

“603. Initial regulatory flexibility analysis.

“604. Final regulatory flexibility analysis.

“605. Avoidance of duplicative or unnecessary analyses.

“606. Effect on other law.

“607. Preparation of analysis.

“608. Procedure for waiver or delay of completion.

“609. Procedures for gathering comments.

“610. Periodic review of rules.

“611. Judicial review.

“612. Reports and intervention rights.

“SUBCHAPTER II—ANALYSIS OF AGENCY RULES

“621. Definitions.

“622. Rulemaking cost-benefit analysis.

“623. Agency regulatory review.

“624. Decisional criteria.

“625. Jurisdiction and judicial review.

“626. Deadlines for rulemaking.

“627. Special rule.

“628. Requirements for major environmental management activities.

“SUBCHAPTER III—RISK ASSESSMENTS

“631. Definitions.

“632. Applicability.

“633. Principles for risk assessments.

“634. Petition for review of a major free-standing risk assessment.

“635. Comprehensive risk reduction.

“636. Rule of construction.

“SUBCHAPTER IV—EXECUTIVE OVERSIGHT

“641. Procedures.

“642. Delegation of authority.

“643. Judicial review.

“644. Regulatory agenda.”.

(2) SUBCHAPTER HEADING.—Chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting immediately before section 601, the following subchapter heading:

“SUBCHAPTER I—REGULATORY ANALYSIS”.

SEC. 5. JUDICIAL REVIEW.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking section 706; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new sections:

“§ 706. Scope of review

“(a) To the extent necessary to reach a decision and when presented, the reviewing court shall decide all relevant questions of law, interpret constitutional and statutory provisions, and determine the meaning or applicability of the terms of an agency action. The reviewing court shall—

“(1) compel agency action unlawfully withheld or unreasonably delayed; and

“(2) hold unlawful and set aside agency action, findings and conclusions found to be—

“(A) arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with law;

“(B) contrary to constitutional right, power, privilege, or immunity;

“(C) in excess of statutory jurisdiction, authority, or limitations, or short of statutory right;

“(D) without observance of procedure required by law;

“(E) unsupported by substantial evidence in a proceeding subject to sections 556 and 557 or otherwise reviewed on the record of an agency hearing provided by statute;

“(F) without substantial support in the rulemaking file, viewed as a whole, for the asserted or necessary factual basis, in the case of a rule adopted in a proceeding subject to section 553; or

“(G) unwarranted by the facts to the extent that the facts are subject to trial de novo by the reviewing court.

“(b) In making the determinations set forth in subsection (a), the court shall review the whole record or those parts of it cited by a party, and due account shall be taken of the rule of prejudicial error.

“§ 707. Consent decrees

“In interpreting any consent decree in effect on or after the date of enactment of this section that imposes on an agency an obligation to initiate, continue, or complete rulemaking proceedings, the court shall not enforce the decree in a way that divests the agency of discretion clearly granted to the agency by statute to respond to changing circumstances, make policy or managerial choices, or protect the rights of third parties.

“§ 708. Affirmative defense

“Notwithstanding any other provision of law, it shall be an affirmative defense in any enforcement action brought by an agency that the regulated person or entity reasonably relied on and is complying with a rule, regulation, adjudication, directive, or order of such agency or any other agency that is incompatible, contradictory, or otherwise cannot be reconciled with the agency rule, regulation, adjudication, directive, or order being enforced.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 706 and inserting the following new items:

“706. Scope of review.

“707. Consent decrees.

“708. Affirmative defense.”.

SEC. 6. CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.

(a) FINDING.—The Congress finds that effective steps for improving the efficiency and proper management of Government operations will be promoted if a moratorium on the implementation of certain significant final rules is imposed in order to provide Congress an opportunity for review.

(b) IN GENERAL.—Title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting immediately after chapter 7 the following new chapter:

“CHAPTER 8—CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF AGENCY RULEMAKING

“801. Congressional review.

“802. Congressional disapproval procedure.

“803. Special rule on statutory, regulatory, and judicial deadlines.

“804. Definitions.

“805. Judicial review.

“806. Applicability; severability.

“807. Exemption for monetary policy.

“§ 801. Congressional review

“(a)(1)(A) Before a rule can take effect as a final rule, the Federal agency promulgating

such rule shall submit to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General a report containing—

“(i) a copy of the rule;

“(ii) a concise general statement relating to the rule; and

“(iii) the proposed effective date of the rule.

“(B) The Federal agency promulgating the rule shall make available to each House of Congress and the Comptroller General, upon request—

“(i) a complete copy of the cost-benefit analysis of the rule, if any;

“(ii) the agency’s actions relevant to sections 603, 604, 605, 607, and 609;

“(iii) the agency’s actions relevant to sections 202, 203, 204, and 205 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995; and

“(iv) any other relevant information or requirements under any other Act and any relevant Executive orders, such as Executive Order No. 12866.

“(C) Upon receipt, each House shall provide copies to the Chairman and Ranking Member of each committee with jurisdiction.

“(2)(A) The Comptroller General shall provide a report on each major rule to the committees of jurisdiction to each House of the Congress by the end of 12 calendar days after the submission or publication date as provided in section 802(b)(2). The report of the Comptroller General shall include an assessment of the agency’s compliance with procedural steps required by paragraph (1)(B).

“(B) Federal agencies shall cooperate with the Comptroller General by providing information relevant to the Comptroller General’s report under subparagraph (A).

“(3) A major rule relating to a report submitted under paragraph (1) shall take effect as a final rule, the latest of—

“(A) the later of the date occurring 60 days after the date on which—

“(i) the Congress receives the report submitted under paragraph (1); or

“(ii) the rule is published in the Federal Register;

“(B) if the Congress passes a joint resolution of disapproval described under section 802 relating to the rule, and the President signs a veto of such resolution, the earlier date—

“(i) on which either House of Congress votes and fails to override the veto of the President; or

“(ii) occurring 30 session days after the date on which the Congress received the veto and objections of the President; or

“(C) the date the rule would have otherwise taken effect, if not for this section (unless a joint resolution of disapproval under section 802 is enacted).

“(4) Except for a major rule, a rule shall take effect as otherwise provided by law after submission to Congress under paragraph (1).

“(5) Notwithstanding paragraph (3), the effective date of a rule shall not be delayed by operation of this chapter beyond the date on which either House of Congress votes to reject a joint resolution of disapproval under section 802.

“(b) A rule shall not take effect (or continue) as a final rule, if the Congress passes a joint resolution of disapproval described under section 802.

“(c)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section (except subject to paragraph (3)), a rule that would not take effect by reason of this chapter may take effect, if the President makes a determination under paragraph (2) and submits written notice of such determination to the Congress.

“(2) Paragraph (1) applies to a determination made by the President by Executive order that the rule should take effect because such rule is—

“(A) necessary because of an imminent threat to health or safety or other emergency;

“(B) necessary for the enforcement of criminal laws;

“(C) necessary for national security; or

“(D) issued pursuant to a statute implementing an international trade agreement.

“(3) An exercise by the President of the authority under this subsection shall have no effect on the procedures under section 802 or the effect of a joint resolution of disapproval under this section.

“(d)(1) In addition to the opportunity for review otherwise provided under this chapter, in the case of any rule that is published in the Federal Register (as a rule that shall take effect as a final rule) during the period beginning on the date occurring 60 days before the date the Congress adjourns sine die through the date on which the succeeding Congress first convenes, section 802 shall apply to such rule in the succeeding Congress.

“(2)(A) In applying section 802 for purposes of such additional review, a rule described under paragraph (1) shall be treated as though—

“(i) such rule were published in the Federal Register (as a rule that shall take effect as a final rule) on the 15th session day after the succeeding Congress first convenes; and

“(ii) a report on such rule were submitted to Congress under subsection (a)(1) on such date.

“(B) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to affect the requirement under subsection (a)(1) that a report shall be submitted to Congress before a final rule can take effect.

“(3) A rule described under paragraph (1) shall take effect as a final rule as otherwise provided by law (including other subsections of this section).

“(e)(1) Section 802 shall apply in accordance with this subsection to any major rule that is published in the Federal Register (as a rule that shall take effect as a final rule) during the period beginning on November 20, 1994, through the date on which the Comprehensive Regulatory Reform Act of 1995 takes effect.

“(2) In applying section 802 for purposes of Congressional review, a rule described under paragraph (1) shall be treated as though—

“(A) such rule were published in the Federal Register (as a rule that shall take effect as a final rule) on the date of enactment of the Comprehensive Regulatory Reform Act of 1995; and

“(B) a report on such rule were submitted to Congress under subsection (a)(1) on such date.

“(3) The effectiveness of a rule described under paragraph (1) shall be as otherwise provided by law, unless the rule is made of no force or effect under section 802.

“(f) Any rule that takes effect and later is made of no force or effect by enactment of a joint resolution under section 802 shall be treated as though such rule had never taken effect.

“(g) If the Congress does not enact a joint resolution of disapproval under section 802, no court or agency may infer any intent of the Congress from any action or inaction of the Congress with regard to such rule, related statute, or joint resolution of disapproval.

“§ 802. Congressional disapproval procedure

“(a) For purposes of this section, the term ‘joint resolution’ means only a joint resolution introduced during the period beginning on the date on which the report referred to in section 801(a) is received by Congress and ending 60 days thereafter, the matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows:

‘That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the ___ relating to ___, and such rule shall have no force or effect.’ (The blank spaces being appropriately filled in.)

“(b)(1) A resolution described in paragraph (1) shall be referred to the committees in each House of Congress with jurisdiction. Such a resolution may not be reported before the eighth day after its submission or publication date.

“(2) For purposes of this subsection the term ‘submission or publication date’ means the later of the date on which—

“(A) the Congress receives the report submitted under section 801(a)(1); or

“(B) the rule is published in the Federal Register.

“(c) If the committee to which is referred a resolution described in subsection (a) has not reported such resolution (or an identical resolution) at the end of 20 calendar days after the submission or publication date defined under subsection (b)(2), such committee may be discharged from further consideration of such resolution in the Senate upon a petition supported in writing by 30 Members of the Senate and in the House upon a petition supported in writing by one-fourth of the Members duly sworn and chosen or by motion of the Speaker supported by the Minority Leader, and such resolution shall be placed on the appropriate calendar of the House involved.

“(d)(1) When the committee to which a resolution is referred has reported, or when a committee is discharged (under subsection (c)) from further consideration of, a resolution described in subsection (a), it is at any time thereafter in order (even though a previous motion to the same effect has been disagreed to) for a motion to proceed to the consideration of the resolution, and all points of order against the resolution (and against consideration of resolution) are waived. The motion is not subject to amendment, or to a motion to postpone, or to a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in order. If a motion to proceed to the consideration of the resolution is agreed to, the resolution shall remain the unfinished business of the respective House until disposed of.

“(2) Debate on the resolution, and on all debatable motions and appeals in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than 10 hours, which shall be divided equally between those favoring and those opposing the resolution. A motion further to limit debate is in order and not debatable. An amendment to, or a motion to postpone, or a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business, or a motion to recommit the resolution is not in order.

“(3) Immediately following the conclusion of the debate on a resolution described in subsection (a), and a single quorum call at the conclusion of the debate if requested in accordance with the rules of the appropriate House, the vote on final passage of the resolution shall occur.

“(4) Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to the application of the rules of the Senate or the House of Representatives, as the case may be, to the procedure relating to a resolution described in subsection (a) shall be decided without debate.

“(e) If, before the passage by one House of a resolution of that House described in subsection (a), that House receives from the other House a resolution described in subsection (a), then the following procedures shall apply:

“(1) The resolution of the other House shall not be referred to a committee.

“(2) With respect to a resolution described in subsection (a) of the House receiving the resolution—

“(A) the procedure in that House shall be the same as if no resolution had been received from the other House; but

“(B) the vote on final passage shall be on the resolution of the other House.

“(f) This section is enacted by Congress—

“(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, and as such it is deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, but applicable only with respect to the procedure to be followed in that House in the case of a resolution described in subsection (a), and it supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

“(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

“§ 803. Special rule on statutory, regulatory, and judicial deadlines

“(a) In the case of any deadline for, relating to, or involving any rule which does not take effect (or the effectiveness of which is terminated) because of enactment of a joint resolution under section 802, that deadline is extended until the date 1 year after the date of the joint resolution. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to affect a deadline merely by reason of the postponement of a rule’s effective date under section 801(a).

“(b) The term ‘deadline’ means any date certain for fulfilling any obligation or exercising any authority established by or under any Federal statute or regulation, or by or under any court order implementing any Federal statute or regulation.

“§ 804. Definitions

“(a) For purposes of this chapter—

“(1) the term ‘Federal agency’ means any agency as that term is defined in section 551(1) (relating to administrative procedure);

“(2) the term ‘major rule’ has the same meaning given such term in section 621(5); and

“(3) the term ‘final rule’ means any final rule or interim final rule.

“(b) As used in subsection (a)(3), the term ‘rule’ has the meaning given such term in section 551, except that such term does not include any rule of particular applicability including a rule that approves or prescribes for the future rates, wages, prices, services, or allowances therefor, corporate or financial structures, reorganizations, mergers, or acquisitions thereof, or accounting practices or disclosures bearing on any of the foregoing or any rule of agency organization, personnel, procedure, practice or any routine matter.

“§ 805. Judicial review

“No determination, finding, action, or omission under this chapter shall be subject to judicial review.

“§ 806. Applicability; severability

“(a) This chapter shall apply notwithstanding any other provision of law.

“(b) If any provision of this chapter or the application of any provision of this chapter to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances, and the remainder of this chapter, shall not be affected thereby.

“§ 807. Exemption for monetary policy

“Nothing in this chapter shall apply to rules that concern monetary policy proposed or implemented by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System or the Federal Open Market Committee.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act and shall

apply to any rule that takes effect as a final rule on or after such effective date.

(d) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for part I of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting immediately after the item relating to chapter 7 the following:

"8. Congressional Review of Agency Rulemaking 801".
SEC. 7. REGULATORY ACCOUNTING.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) MAJOR RULE.—The term "major rule" has the same meaning as defined in section 621(5)(A)(i) of title 5, United States Code. The term shall not include—

(A) administrative actions governed by sections 556 and 557 of title 5, United States Code;

(B) regulations issued with respect to a military or foreign affairs function of the United States or a statute implementing an international trade agreement; or

(C) regulations related to agency organization, management, or personnel.

(2) AGENCY.—The term "agency" means any executive department, military department, Government corporation, Government controlled corporation, or other establishment in the executive branch of the Government (including the Executive Office of the President), or any independent regulatory agency, but shall not include—

(A) the General Accounting Office;

(B) the Federal Election Commission;

(C) the governments of the District of Columbia and of the territories and possessions of the United States, and their various subdivisions; or

(D) Government-owned contractor-operated facilities, including laboratories engaged in national defense research and production activities.

(b) ACCOUNTING STATEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—(A) The President shall be responsible for implementing and administering the requirements of this section.

(B) Not later than June 1, 1997, and each June 1 thereafter, the President shall prepare and submit to Congress an accounting statement that estimates the annual costs of major rules and corresponding benefits in accordance with this subsection.

(2) YEARS COVERED BY ACCOUNTING STATEMENT.—Each accounting statement shall cover, at a minimum, the 5 fiscal years beginning on October 1 of the year in which the report is submitted and may cover any fiscal year preceding such fiscal years for purpose of revising previous estimates.

(3) TIMING AND PROCEDURES.—(A) The President shall provide notice and opportunity for comment for each accounting statement. The President may delegate to an agency the requirement to provide notice and opportunity to comment for the portion of the accounting statement relating to that agency.

(B) The President shall propose the first accounting statement under this subsection not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act and shall issue the first accounting statement in final form not later than 3 years after such effective date. Such statement shall cover, at a minimum, each of the fiscal years beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

(4) CONTENT OF ACCOUNTING STATEMENT.—

(A) Each accounting statement shall contain estimates of costs and benefits with respect to each fiscal year covered by the statement in accordance with this paragraph. For each such fiscal year for which estimates were made in a previous accounting statement, the statement shall revise those estimates and state the reasons for the revisions.

(B)(i) An accounting statement shall estimate the costs of major rules by setting

forth, for each year covered by the statement—

(I) the annual expenditure of national economic resources for major rules, grouped by regulatory program; and

(II) such other quantitative and qualitative measures of costs as the President considers appropriate.

(ii) For purposes of the estimate of costs in the accounting statement, national economic resources shall include, and shall be listed under, at least the following categories:

(I) Private sector costs.

(II) Federal sector costs.

(III) State and local government administrative costs.

(C) An accounting statement shall estimate the benefits of major rules by setting forth, for each year covered by the statement, such quantitative and qualitative measures of benefits as the President considers appropriate. Any estimates of benefits concerning reduction in health, safety, or environmental risks shall present the most plausible level of risk practical, along with a statement of the reasonable degree of scientific certainty.

(c) ASSOCIATED REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—At the same time as the President submits an accounting statement under subsection (b), the President, acting through the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall submit to Congress a report associated with the accounting statement (hereinafter referred to as an "associated report"). The associated report shall contain, in accordance with this subsection—

(A) analyses of impacts; and

(B) recommendations for reform.

(2) ANALYSES OF IMPACTS.—The President shall include in the associated report the following:

(A) Analyses prepared by the President of the cumulative impact of major rules in Federal regulatory programs covered in the accounting statement on the following:

(i) The ability of State and local governments to provide essential services, including police, fire protection, and education.

(ii) Small business.

(iii) Productivity.

(iv) Wages.

(v) Economic growth.

(vi) Technological innovation.

(vii) Consumer prices for goods and services.

(viii) Such other factors considered appropriate by the President.

(B) A summary of any independent analyses of impacts prepared by persons commenting during the comment period on the accounting statement.

(3) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REFORM.—The President shall include in the associated report the following:

(A) A summary of recommendations of the President for reform or elimination of any Federal regulatory program or program element that does not represent sound use of national economic resources or otherwise is inefficient.

(B) A summary of any recommendations for such reform or elimination of Federal regulatory programs or program elements prepared by persons commenting during the comment period on the accounting statement.

(d) GUIDANCE FROM OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall, in consultation with the Council of Economic Advisers, provide guidance to agencies—

(1) to standardize measures of costs and benefits in accounting statements prepared pursuant to sections 3 and 7 of this Act, including—

(A) detailed guidance on estimating the costs and benefits of major rules; and

(B) general guidance on estimating the costs and benefits of all other rules that do not meet the thresholds for major rules; and

(2) to standardize the format of the accounting statements.

(e) RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE.—After each accounting statement and associated report submitted to Congress, the Director of the Congressional Budget Office shall make recommendations to the President—

(1) for improving accounting statements prepared pursuant to this section, including recommendations on level of detail and accuracy; and

(2) for improving associated reports prepared pursuant to this section, including recommendations on the quality of analysis.

(f) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—No requirements under this section shall be subject to judicial review in any manner.

SEC. 8. STUDIES AND REPORTS.

(a) RISK ASSESSMENTS.—The Administrative Conference of the United States shall—

(1) develop and carry out an ongoing study of the operation of the risk assessment requirements of subchapter III of chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code (as added by section 4 of this Act); and

(2) submit an annual report to the Congress on the findings of the study.

(b) ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT.—Not later than December 31, 1996, the Administrative Conference of the United States shall—

(1) carry out a study of the operation of the Administrative Procedure Act (as amended by section 3 of this Act); and

(2) submit a report to the Congress on the findings of the study, including proposals for revision, if any.

SEC. 9. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

(a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as otherwise provided, this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date of enactment.

(b) SEVERABILITY.—If any provision of this Act, an amendment made by this Act, or the application of such provision or amendment to any person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act, the amendments made by this Act, and the application of the provisions of such to any person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

THE FISHERIES ACT OF 1995 HIGH SEAS FISHERIES LICENSING ACT OF 1995

**STEVENS (AND OTHERS)
AMENDMENT NO. 1488**

Mr. DOLE (for Mr. STEVENS for himself, Mr. KERRY, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. BREAUX) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 267) to establish a system of licensing, reporting, and regulation for vessels of the United States fishing on the high seas, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Fisheries Act of 1995".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.