

State of Kansas
Senate

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Richard Hilderbrand
Senator, 13th District

January 24, 2020

Testimony in Support of SB 244 - An Act concerning administrative rules and regulations; relating to a sunset

Senate Ways and Means Committee

Honorable Chair - Carolyn McGinn
Vice Chair - Rick Billinger
Ranking Minority - Tom Hawk
Honorable Committee Members

Thank you, Madam Chair and esteemed members of the Committee! Thank you for the opportunity to have a hearing on SB 244, and for allowing me the opportunity to speak in support of Senate Bill 244 today.

While it is necessary to have rules and regulations, sometimes these rules and regulations can become very burdensome and costly to the very citizens that we are charged to protect.

Per a recent Mercatus article, the 2019 KAR contains 70,969 restrictions and 3.2 million words. It would take an individual about 180 hours, or about four and half weeks to read the entire KAR. That is assuming the reader spends 40 hours per week reading and can read at a rate of 300 words per minute. By comparison, there are 1.09 million additional restrictions in the federal code. Individuals and businesses in Kansas must navigate these different layers of restrictions to remain compliance.

<https://www.mercatus.org/publications/regulation/snapshot-kansas-regulation-2019>

Per a January 24, 2017 article listed in Forbes Magazine, the average business will spend at least \$83,000 to start a new business, and over \$12,000 a year on regulations.

These figures come from the first-ever [Small Business Regulations Survey](#), conducted by the [National Small Business Association](#), which of course makes it its business to reduce the regulatory burden on small businesses. Among other conclusions, the survey found that 44 percent of

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businesses spend at least 40 hours a year dealing with federal regulations, and 29 percent spend at least that much on state and local rules. Three-quarters of business owners say that they have spent time reading proposed rules at least once, and of these, not quite two-thirds discover that more than half the time, the rules they've read wouldn't apply to them. About 40 percent of respondents claim that they have held off making a new investment because of a regulation at some point in the past.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/robbmandelbaum/2017/01/24/the-83000-question-how-much-do-regulations-really-cost-small-business/>

The intention of this bill is not to eliminate rules and regulations in our state. The intention is to have more legislative oversight, and to ensure that each rule and regulation has a definable benefit to the state, our citizens, and our businesses.

Thank you, Madam Chair, and Committee for your time and consideration it was an honor to speak before you!

Thank you,

Senator Richard Hilderbrand

District 13

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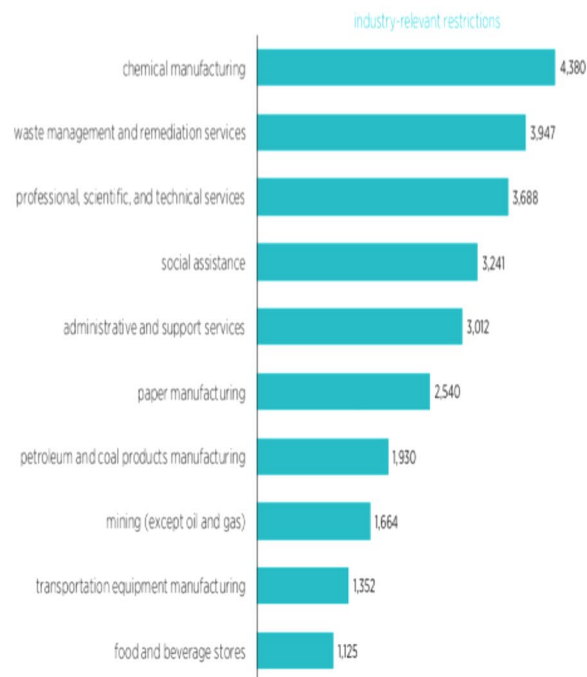
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Figure 1. Top 10 Industries Targeted by Kansas State Regulation in 2019



Note: Industries are classified using the RegData 3.0 industry classifier. Some previous state regulatory snapshots used earlier versions of the RegData industry classifier.

Source: State RegData (Kansas data), <https://quantgov.org/state-regdata/>.

Source: <https://www.mercatus.org/publications/regulation/snapshot-kansas-regulation-2019>

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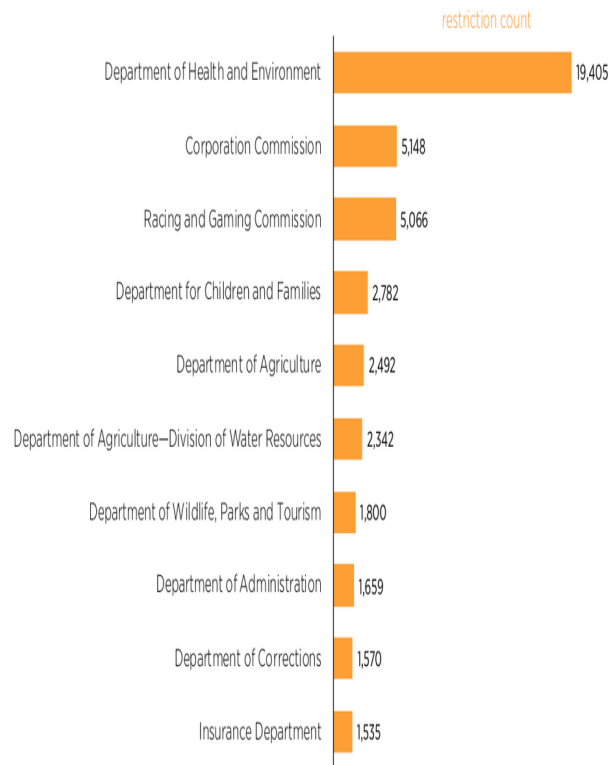
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Figure 2. Top 10 Regulators in Kansas in 2019



Source: State RegData (Kansas data), <https://quantgov.org/state-regdata/>.

Source: <https://www.mercatus.org/publications/regulation/snapshot-kansas-regulation-2019>