



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

THE (REINS ACT): IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S POPULATION BASED HEALTH

A briefing was held by the Coalition for Sensible Safeguards on “Defending and Advancing Regulations”. Presenters at the forum were representatives from labor, the environmental movement, health care advocates, consumers, and advocates for American financial reform. A central topic at the forum was the House legislation “Regulations for the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act (H.R. 10)

Summary

The REINS act (H. R. 10), would require congressional approval of all major federal rules within 70 days. Without approval, the rules would be nullified, which would mire rules in Congress and complicate rule making causing unnecessary delay. It would force a resolution for each new major rule through congressional committees which is tantamount to a slow motion government shut down. The public would be less protected and the political system would be more abused. Scientific and financial decision agencies who write rules, at the agency level, would be subject to additional political manipulation. It would give special interest another opportunity to undermine public protections. A letter signed by 200 organizations has been circulated that describes the adverse consequences of the REINS Act on public protections.

Disability Prevention Issue

The REINS Act would diminish worker protections of safety and health, environmental health protections, and qualities associated with the determinants of public health. The REINS Act further complicates rule making processes and politicizes decisions and would radically alter the balance of power in government. Thus, it may jeopardize the public’s health interest in prevention of chronic health conditions that result in diminished health that contribute of disability.

Activity

There is planned activity to lobby against the REINS Act.

Principle

Regulations should be promulgated based on the best available science and in a timely manner.