



William E. Brown  
2017 President

Dale A. Stinton  
Chief Executive Officer

**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DIVISION**

Jerry Giovaniello, Senior Vice President  
Gary Weaver, Vice President  
Joe Ventrone, Vice President & Deputy Chief  
for Regulatory Affairs  
Scott Reiter, Vice President  
Jamie Gregory, Deputy Chief Lobbyist

500 New Jersey Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20001-2020  
Ph. 202-383-1194; Fax 202-383-7580  
WWW.NAR.REALTOR

January 9, 2017

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232 The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-204 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Democratic Leader Pelosi,

On behalf of the 1.1 million members of the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR), I urge the House to approve H.R. 5 (Goodlatte, R-VA; Peterson, D-MN), the “Regulatory Accountability Act”.

NAR believes that federal regulations should be narrowly tailored, supported by strong data and evidence, and impose the least costs possible on regulated stakeholders.

The Regulatory Accountability Act embodies these principles and will contribute to a more transparent and accountable regulatory process by:

- Increasing public participation in shaping the most-costly regulations at an earlier point in the rulemaking process;
- Instructing agencies to choose the least costly option that achieves congressional intent unless they can show a costlier option is needed to protect health, safety, or welfare;
- Requiring public hearings for the most-costly regulations;
- Improving the process for evaluating how small businesses are impacted by regulations; and
- Providing for a more rigorous test in legal challenges for those regulations that would have the most impact.

The Regulatory Accountability Act builds on established principles of a fair regulatory process and would make the regulatory process more transparent, agencies more accountable for their decisions, and regulations better-tailored to achieve their purpose without unnecessary burdens on stakeholders.

The Regulatory Accountability Act would allow Congress and the public to reassert control over the federal regulatory bureaucracy. Therefore, NAR strongly supports the Act, and urges passage of the bill when it comes to the House floor for a vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'William E. Brown'.

William E. Brown  
2017 President, National Association of REALTORS®



REALTOR® is a registered collective membership mark which may be used only by real estate professionals who are members of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and subscribe to its strict Code of Ethics.