

Perkins Project on Worker Rights and Wages

# Policy Watch



**The Worker Rights and Wages Policy Watch** tracks actions by the Trump administration, Congress, and federal agencies that affect working people and the economy. The goal is to monitor policy actions as they unfold and assess their impact. Do they move us toward a fairer economy in which workers gain as the economy grows? Or do they favor the already-affluent—including corporate owners and Wall Street?

This clearinghouse, maintained by a team of economists and labor lawyers, catalogues bills, regulations, executive orders, and presidential memoranda. These actions will reveal whether policymakers are working for, or undermining, a fair economy.

# Agency

- **Hearing: Confirmation Hearing of Secretary of Labor Nominee, Alexander Acosta**

March 30, 2017

- **Executive Order on a Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch: EO 13781**

March 13, 2017

- **Presidential Memorandum on the Hiring Freeze**

January 23, 2017

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# Jobs

- **“U.S. Department of Labor announces plans to protect American workers from H-1B program discrimination”**

April 6, 2017

- **Congressional Review Act resolution to block rule establishing appropriate occupations for drug testing: H.J. Res. 42/S.J. Res. 23**

March 31, 2017

- **Presidential Memorandum Regarding Withdrawal of the United States from the Trans-Pacific Partnership Negotiations and Agreement**

January 23, 2017

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# Regulation

- **Regulatory Integrity Act of 2017: H.R.1004 Rep. Walberg (R-MI)**

March 2, 2017

- **OIRA Insight, Reform, and Accountability Act: H.R.1009 Rep. Mitchell (R-MI)**

March 2, 2017

- **Searching for and Cutting Regulations that are Unnecessarily Burdensome Act (SCRUB Act): H.R. 998 Rep. Smith (R-MO)**

March 2, 2017

- **Executive Order on Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda: EO 13777**

February 24, 2017

- **Executive Order on Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs: EO 13771**

January 30, 2017

- **Presidential Memorandum Streamlining Permitting and Reducing Regulatory Burdens for Domestic Manufacturing**

January 24, 2017

- **Presidential Memorandum on Regulatory Freeze Pending Review**

January 20, 2017

- **Regulatory Accountability Act of 2017: H.R. 5 Rep. Goodlatte (R-VA)**

January 12, 2017

- **Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act: H.R. 26 Rep. Collins (R-GA)**

January 6, 2017

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## Retirement Security

- **Congressional Review Act Resolution to block rule Providing for Local Savings Initiatives for Private Employees: H.J. Res. 67**

April 13, 2017

- **Department of Labor announcement of a delay of the fiduciary rule**

April 7, 2017

- **Congressional Review Act Resolution to block rule Providing for State Savings Initiatives for Private Employees: H.J. Res 66**

February 16, 2017

- **Presidential Memorandum on Fiduciary Duty Rule**

February 3, 2017

- **Miners Protection Act of 2017: S. 175 Sen. Manchin (D-WV)/ H.R. 179 Rep. McKinley (R-WV)**

January 17, 2017

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## Unions and organizing

- **Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act of 2017: H.R. 986 Rep. Rokita (R-IN) / S. 63 Sen. Moran (R-KS)**

March 24, 2017

- **Fair and Open Competition Act (FOCA Act): H.R. 1552 Rep. Ross (R-FL) / S. 622 Sen. Flake (R-AZ)**

March 15, 2017

- **National Right-to-Work Act: H.R. 785 Rep. King (R-IA) / S. 545 Sen. Paul (R-KY)**

March 7, 2017

- **Hearing: Restoring Balance and Fairness to the National Labor Relations Board**

February 14, 2017

- **Rewarding Achievement and Incentivizing Successful Employees (RAISE) Act: H.R. 987 Rep. Rokita (R-IN) / S. 155 Sen. Rubio (R-FL)**

February 9, 2017

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## Wages

- **Hearing: H.R. 1180 “Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017”**

April 5, 2017

- **Hearing: Federal Wage and Hour Policies in the Twenty-First Century Economy**

February 16, 2017

- **Davis-Bacon Repeal Act: H.R. 743 Rep. King (R-IA) / S. 244 Sen. Lee (R-UT)**

January 30, 2017

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# Worker safety

- **Department of Labor announcement of delay of the Crystalline Silica Standard for the construction industry**

April 7, 2017

- **Congressional Review Act resolution to block the Department of Labor’s rule titled, “Clarification of Employer’s Continuing Obligation to Make and Maintain an Accurate Record of Each Recordable Injury and Illness”: H.J. Res. 83 / S.J. Res. 27**

April 3, 2017

- **Department of Labor announcement of a proposed delay of the rule for Examination of Working Places in Metal and Nonmetal Mines**

March 27, 2017

- **Congressional Review Act resolution to block Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces rule: H.J. Res. 37/S.J. Res. 12**

Fair Pay & Safe Workplaces Rule March 27, 2017

- **Department of Labor announcement of delay of beryllium rule**

March 22, 2017

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## Glossary of terms

**Presidential memorandum:** Directive by the president used to govern the actions of government officials and agencies; does not need to be published unless the president determines that the memo has “general applicability and legal effect.”

**Executive order:** Directive by the president used to govern or direct actions of government officials or agencies; must be published in the Federal Register.

**Statement of administration policy:** Formal means through which the president comments on legislation pending before Congress; indicates intent to support or veto a measure.

**Congressional Review Act (CRA):** Oversight tool which provides for a special set of procedures for considering a joint resolution disapproving an agency final rule. It requires only a majority vote in the Senate. Enactment of a CRA joint resolution of disapproval blocks the rule from taking effect and, when a rule has already taken effect, it prohibits the rule from continuing to be in effect.

**Joint resolution:** Legislative measure which, with one exception (constitutional amendment), requires approval of both chambers of Congress and is submitted to the president for signature into law.