

October 16, 2013

Commissioner Catherine Smith
Department of Economic and Community Development
505 Hudson Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Commissioner Daniel Esty
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Commissioner James Redeker
Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 317546
2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06111

Dear Commissioners;

Earlier today, Governor Malloy released a plan to streamline agency regulations. Among other things, Executive Order Number 37 calls on each agency to conduct an independent review of regulations.

The provision in the Governor's Executive Order to conduct such a review is very similar to Section 11 of the bi-partisan Jobs Bill passed during the October Special Session in 2011. At the urging of legislative Republicans, the Jobs Bill provision required the Departments of Energy and Environmental Protection, Transportation and Economic and Community Development to "make recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to such agency, respectively, for the revision or repeal of any program of such agency or statute relating to such agency that such agency deems to be obsolete or in need of revision for the purpose of making the operations or procedures of such program or statutory provision more efficient."

As agency heads, you were required to submit your recommendations to the appropriate legislative committees by February 1, 2012. Based on communications between my office and those committees, your agencies failed to file recommendations shortly after the deadline. And to my knowledge, no recommendations have been submitted since that time.

I am concerned with your lack of response to the 2011 Public Act. Should we understand this to mean that you had no changes to recommend at that time? And, is there any reason to expect that you would reach a different conclusion after another review required by the Governor's Executive Order?

Sincerely,

Lawrence F. Cafero, Jr
House Republican Leader

cc: John Rathgeber, CT Business & Industry Association