



**Infographic**

# Does Deregulation Hurt The Environment?

**SAM BATKINS | JUNE 29, 2017**

Today the American Action Forum (@AAF) released a new infographic examining the deregulatory efforts of both President Trump and President Obama. AAF analysis finds that while there has been a spotlight on President Trump's deregulatory push, President Obama also made strides in deregulation. It might surprise supporters and detractors of the previous administration that President Obama actually issued 101 rules that reduced compliance costs. However, the historic amount of new regulations from the Obama Administration wiped out any deregulatory cost savings his administration had made. Regardless of the net effect, President Obama did reduce regulatory burdens and he was able to do so in a way that didn't result in dirtier air and water.

[Read the entire analysis here.](#)

# DOES DEREGULATION *Hurt* THE ENVIRONMENT?

To some, deregulation means “hampering the government’s ability to ensure we have clean air, drinkable water, and safe food.” This language is **hyperbole**.

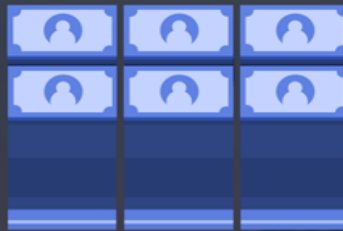
President Obama issued 101 rules that **reduced** compliance costs without harming the environment. **President Trump has time to replicate these small victories from the previous administration.**

## *Under 8 YEARS of* PRESIDENT OBAMA



**18**  
“MAJOR”  
DEREGULATORY  
ACTIONS PASSED

There is no evidence that President Obama’s cost-cutting measures have led to significant environmental or safety concerns.



**-\$6.4 Bil**  
REDUCED  
COSTS

The vast majority of these deregulatory actions took place at the margin of existing rules while retaining **critical health and safety protections**.



### *Regressive?*

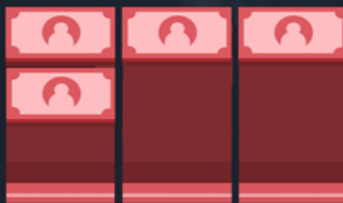
If agencies thought these measures would have led to widespread health and safety concerns, they likely **would not** have finalized them.

## *Under 5 MONTHS of* PRESIDENT TRUMP



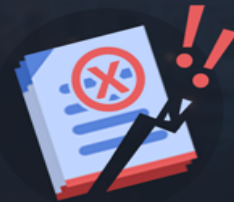
**14**  
RULES  
ELIMINATED

In addition to these cuts, the Trump Administration has signaled that it wants to **repeal** several notable rules from the Obama Administration.



**-\$3.7 Bil**  
REDUCED  
COSTS

President Trump does not want to upend the Clean Air Act. It’s far easier to tweak uncontroversial aspects of past rules than to push for full-scale repeal.



### *A Full Repeal?*

Presidents Carter, Reagan, Clinton, and Obama all managed to reduce regulatory costs **without full-scale repeal**.

**President Trump will likely replicate those earlier efforts while keeping our air and water clean.**

