

OHIO'S COMMON SENSE INITIATIVE



Lt. Governor Mary Taylor leads Ohio's Common Sense Initiative (CSI) to help create a more jobs-friendly regulatory climate in Ohio.

What We Do

CSI is working to establish a regulatory framework in Ohio that meets four basic criteria:

1. Regulations should facilitate economic growth
2. Regulations should be transparent and responsive
3. Compliance should be easy and inexpensive
4. Regulations should be fair and consistent

Why CSI?

Ohio's business community is a partner in the state's success. The priority of a strong regulatory system should be *compliance*, not *punishment*. While regulations play an important role in promoting fair competition and protecting the public, regulations should also facilitate economic growth. Ohio's regulatory process should be built on the foundations of transparency, accountability, and performance, and should hold state agencies accountable as rules and regulations impacting businesses are developed or renewed.

Our Accomplishments

Since 2005, major pending federal regulations have increased by 60 percent. By comparison, and with the help of CSI, **rule filings in 2012 were 44% below the historical average**, indicating that agencies understand and consider the CSI process before making decisions to propose regulations that impact Ohio businesses. In 2012, CSI reviewed nearly 1,400 rules from 166 rule packages. Below are just a few examples of CSI's success.

Highlights

Alcohol Requirements for Food Manufacturers – CSI learned about Custom Culinary, a business in northern Ohio that manufactures soups, sauces, and purees for national restaurant chains. Previously, Ohio's liquor law required food manufacturers to purchase alcohol in retail containers and at retail prices. Because some of their recipes use alcohol, the company was forced to purchase, uncork, sterilize, and pour, one bottle at a time, 140,000 pounds of Merlot wine for one recipe. In 2011, CSI worked with the Ohio Department of Commerce and the Ohio General Assembly to get the law changed. Now, Custom Culinary and other Ohio businesses can purchase alcohol wholesale for their recipes. In June 2012, Custom Culinary broke ground on its \$5 million expansion.

Ohio Residential Building Code – CSI worked to change the Ohio Residential Building Code to make it current, while maintaining safe standards and minimizing cost increases that could have undermined the residential building industry in Ohio. The new code supports an active residential construction industry which will create jobs. The process for bringing Commerce staff together with the Ohio Home Builders Association (OHBA) to overcome historical tensions is a great example of the CSI process working through the rule review function. The OHBA estimated that the changes from the CSI process saved at least \$2,000 on the construction of an average new home over the originally-proposed Code.

International Doctors – CSI brought stakeholders together to change a law that prevented Ohio's academic medical centers from attracting world class, internationally-trained medical researchers. These researchers bring millions of dollars of investments and jobs to Ohio. Previously, these doctors could stay for only three years forcing them to leave Ohio, and often locate in other states. CSI worked to draft legislation to ensure that the State Medical Board would have the authority it needs to protect the public, but also allow these special certificates to be renewed so these doctors can stay in Ohio. The Clinical Research Faculty Certificate was enacted in June 2012.

Visit www.governor.ohio.gov/CSI and click on "Semi-Annual Report" for more examples of our success.

How to Contact Us

You can contribute to our success by helping us identify areas where government hinders your ability to create jobs. To submit your solutions, email CSIOhio@governor.ohio.gov or visit www.governor.ohio.gov/CSI and click on "Share Your Solutions." Also, please visit Ohio's Common Sense Initiative on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @CSI_Ohio.