

**Congressman Jim Jordan (R-OH), RSC Chairman**  
**Congressman Randy Neugebauer (R-TX), FSWG Chairman**  
**WEEKLY UPDATE: February 29, 2012**

**In This Newsletter: New Dodd-Frank Numbers; CFPB & OFR; Regulations in the News**

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## **Dodd-Frank Tracker**

Dodd-Frank requires approximately 400 rule makings, 142 of which have been proposed or finalized so far. According to regulators, these rules – about a third of those mandated under Dodd-Frank – will require 15.4 million man-hours to implement and 21.3 million man-hours in annual ongoing compliance burden.

By comparison, it took about 20 million man-hours to build the Panama Canal. While the canal connected the two largest oceans in the world, all Dodd-Frank seems to be doing is connecting lawyers with billable hours.

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## **CFPB & OFR Oversight**

Incredibly, nearly one-third of these 21.3 million man-hours are represented by one rule the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has put out so far. Earlier this month the Oversight & Investigations Subcommittee held a hearing regarding the CFPB's budget. In preparing for the hearing we learned that in FY2011 the CFPB spent \$170 million and hired 400 people – all without having drafted and implemented a “strategic plan” to guide its operations. Today the CFPB employs 778 employees and pays many of them six-figure salaries, such as a recently posted \$225,000 compensation package for an IT Specialist. Given the lack of a plan, it is not surprising that the agency blew past its original budget estimate by nearly \$30 million.

As a follow up to the hearing, RSC working group members Reps. Renacci and Neugebauer joined in making specific requests of Mr. Richard Cordray and the CFPB to provide detailed budgetary information and deliver on promises of enhanced transparency into how the agency plans to spend taxpayer dollars. The RSC Financial Services Working Group will continue to keep the pressure on important agencies like the CFPB and Office of Financial Research (OFR), the CFPB's evil twin, to paint a clear picture to Americans of the kind of leadership our party provides.

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## **Regulations in the News**

The FSWG aims to educate RSC members on important debates in the financial services world. In addition to the numbers above, several recent news items have called attention to the volume and impact regulations have on our recovery.

- [“Over-regulated America.”](#) *The Economist*. 18 Feb 2012.
- [“The Dodd-Frank Act: Too Big Not to Fail.”](#) *The Economist*. 18 Feb 2012.
- [“Small Businesses for Sensible Regulations Survey Finds Majority of Americans Support Regulatory Reform.”](#) *National Federation of Independent Business*. 21 Feb 2012.

*Question or comments regarding RSC Financial Services Working Group items can also be directed to Ja’Ron K. Smith, [Ja’Ron.Smith@mail.house.gov](mailto:Ja’Ron.Smith@mail.house.gov) or Erik Johnson, [Erik.Johnson@mail.house.gov](mailto:Erik.Johnson@mail.house.gov).*