



2018 EDA Legislative Priorities - 115th Congress

THANK YOU FOR PASSING TAX REFORM

EDA would like to thank you for passing the Tax Cuts and Job Acts. EDA members are benefitting from many aspects of this legislation including:

- Reduced personal and corporate tax rates;
- An exemption from the business interest deduction limitation;
- Increased Section 179 levels.

REGULATORY REFORM

EDA supports regulatory reform by Congress which would restore checks and balances to the regulatory process. Specifically, EDA:

- Supports increased public participation in the rule-making process;
- Restricting agencies' use of interim final regulations;
- Providing for a more rigorous test as to the cost of proposed regulations;
- Requiring agencies to choose the least costly regulatory option unless the agency can prove that another option is needed to protect public health, safety or welfare.

EDA supports the following pieces of legislation which are pending in the House:

- H.R. 33, the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2017, introduced by Congressman Steve Chabot;
- H.R. 76, the Separation of Powers Restoration Act of 2017, introduced by Congressman John Ratcliffe;
- H.R. 1430, the HONEST Act to prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from proposing, finalizing, or disseminating regulations or assessments based upon science that is not transparent or reproducible, introduced by Congressman Lamar Smith;
- H.R. 4175, the Invest in Innovative Small Businesses Act, introduced by Congressman Jason Smith.

EDA supports the following pieces of legislation which are pending in the Senate:

- H.R. 1101, the Small Business Health Fairness Act of 2017, introduced by Congressman Sam Johnson. This piece of legislation is currently being considered by the Senate Committee on Health Education, Labor and Pensions;
- H.R. 469, the Congressional Article I Powers Strengthening Act, introduced by Congressman Doug Collins. This piece of legislation was received in the Senate and read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary;
- H.R. 5, is currently being considered by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. H.R. 5 includes vital reform mechanisms including:
 - o Requiring agencies to use less costly regulations, rather than more costly regulations, to achieve a given objective.
 - o Enabling the judiciary to "end judicial deference to bureaucrats' statutory and regulatory interpretations."
 - o Requiring agencies to explain how their actions affect small business owners, employees, and customers.
 - o Preventing new rules with billion-dollar annual costs from taking effect until litigation against them is resolved.
 - o Requiring agencies to publish already mandatory transparency reports that they regularly disregard.
 - o Requiring agencies to publish summaries of their new rules in the English language, more or less.
- S. 577, the Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2017, introduced by Senator James Lankford; and
- S. 584, the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act, introduced by Senator James Lankford.

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TRADE

EDA supports the implementation of trade agreements which level the playing field for U.S. companies who import and export goods. To this end:

- EDA supports H.R. 442, the Cuba Trade Act of 2017, introduced by Congressman Tom Emmer.
- EDA supports the following objectives with respect to the re-negotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement:
 1. Modernizing the agreement to incorporate successful aspects of other, more recent trade deals;
 2. Modernizing the process for cross-border customs including simple clearance, declaration and origin rules;
 3. Integrating North American energy markets and infrastructure;
 4. Increasing protections for intellectual property;
 5. Encouraging the permanent adoption and expansion of the Regulatory Cooperation Council to align product standards, testing and certification; and
 6. Updating labor categories to reflect modern classifications and expand common standards for professions and mutual recognition of skills credentials.

RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND BROADBAND

Significant, long-term investments in our nation's infrastructure are critical in order to continue to bring American goods to market in a competitive manner. To that end:

- EDA supports President Trump's Legislative Outline for Rebuilding Infrastructure in America. While many of the components of this plan have been advocated by EDA members since 2017, EDA is particularly supportive of establishing a "Rural Infrastructure Program" (\$50 billion) for capital investments in rural infrastructure investments.
- EDA supports S. 2343 and H.R. 4881, also known as the Precision Agriculture Connectivity Act of 2018. This bipartisan piece of legislation was introduced in the Senate by Sens. Roger Wicker and Amy Klobuchar and in the House by Congressmen Bob Latta and Dave Loebsack. This Act will help to facilitate the deployment of broadband internet across rural America – including rangeland and cropland, where broadband connectivity is increasingly essential for production agriculture. EDA hopes that Congress will take up and pass the legislation so as to help facilitate greater access to broadband internet access on cropland and rangeland.

About EDA

Founded in 1900, the Equipment Dealers Association (EDA), formerly known as the North American Equipment Dealers Association, is a non-profit trade organization representing 4,500 retail dealers extensively engaged in the sale and service of agricultural, construction, industrial, forestry, outdoor power, lawn and garden, and/or turf equipment. EDA provides essential value to its members by enhancing the dealer-manufacturer relationship and advocating for a positive legislative and regulatory environment. EDA is headquartered in St. Louis, MO and is affiliated with regional associations located throughout the United States and Canada. For additional information, visit www.equipmentdealer.org.