

Beat: Politics

December 2017 White House Government

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"I don't know if we'll have any left to cut" President Donald J. Trump pulled out the ceremonial gold scissors yesterday to show Americans exactly what his Administration is doing to Washington's vast regulatory state.

A few highlights from his speech:

In 1960, there were

20,000 pages of federal regulations; today, there are 185,000" a stack about as tall as one of the reporters covering yesterday's speech. (He's 6'3"?)

"We canceled or delayed over 1,500 planned regulatory actions, more than any previous president by far."?

The President's simple message for agency heads: Slash even more red tape in 2018. "And that should just about do it. I don't know if we'll have any left to cut."?

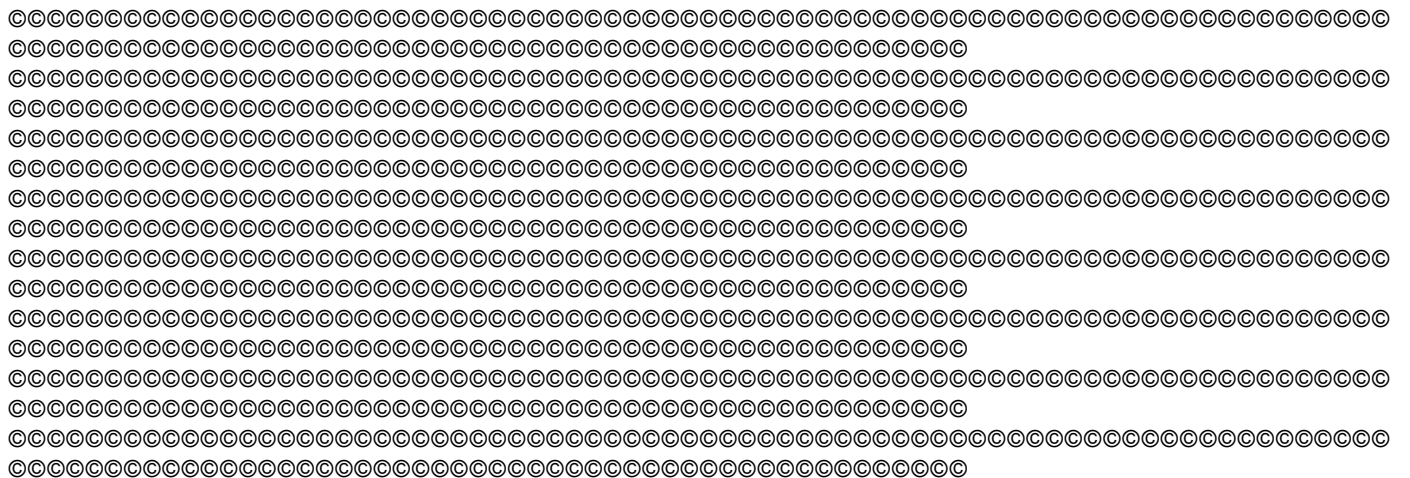
One stat to remember: The Administration promised to cut 2 regulations for each new one added. Agencies blew that 2:1 goal out of the water, instead eliminating rules at a 22:1 clip.

Why it matters: "Reductions in regulation are happening now,"? financial expert Peter Wallison wrote earlier this fall. "That's why the markets are exuberant."?

President Donald J. Trump and First Lady Melania Trump's official 2017 Christmas portrait | December 5, 2017 (Official White House Photo by Andrea Hanks)"

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