



National Funeral Directors Association
*Informs *Educates *Advocates

2011 POLICY

REGULATORY REFORM

NFDA Position

That NFDA support any and all legislation or policies that would reform the federal regulatory process and reduce the costly, burdensome, unnecessary and redundant regulatory burden on funeral homes.

Background

Over the years presidents and congresses have tried to reform the burdensome, costly and, in many cases, unnecessary federal regulatory burden on business, particularly small business. They have had moderate success. Laws such as the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Regulatory Flexibility Act, the Financial Impact Act, the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act and most recently the Congressional Review Act have put some modicum of discipline into the regulatory system. Moreover, former President Bush, through the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), asked the federal bureaucracy to redefine its mission and achieve it in the least intrusive, costly and burdensome manner. He required the federal regulatory agencies and Congress itself to carefully consider the cost and benefit of a proposed law or regulation. While it has not stopped the regulatory juggernaut, it clearly has slowed it down and made it somewhat more responsible and responsive to the concerns of those who are regulated.

Discussion

NFDA has long supported any effort to reduce the enormous regulatory burden on funeral homes particularly from OSHA, EPA, FTC and IRS among others. Funeral homes receive a disproportionate share of the regulatory burden from the most powerful and active federal, state and local regulatory agencies. In that regard, NFDA continues to be a strong advocate for legislation and policies that reform the federal regulatory process and reduces and/or eliminates unnecessary, burdensome and costly regulations on funeral homes and other small businesses. With an activist President, this will be even more critical in 2011 as we expect those agencies mentioned above to become much more active and seek to impose new regulations and rules on business in general and funeral service in particular (formaldehyde, respirators, cemeteries). With the change in Leadership in the House after the 2010 mid-term election, we expect it to keep a watchful eye on these agencies and conduct oversight hearings to insure no regulation is issued without public scrutiny and appropriate evaluation of its impact on those it would affect.

NFDA will be ever vigilant in this new regulatory environment and take advantage of every opportunity to express our issues and concerns.

NFDA Governance History:

1998: Committee Action 1/13/98; Policy Board Action 3/30/98

1999: Committee Action 1/26/99; Policy Board Action 3/15/99

2000: Committee Action 2/1/00; Policy Board Action 3/27/00

2001: Committee Action 1/30/01; Policy Board Action 3/19/01

2002: Committee Action 1/29/02; Policy Board Action 3/18/02

2003: Committee Action 1/23/03; Policy Board Action 3/24/03

2004: Committee Action 1/26/04; Policy Board Action 3/15/04

2005: Committee Action 1/18/05; Policy Board Action 3/7/05

2006: Committee Action 1/17/06; Policy Board Action 3/8/06

2007: Committee Action 1/16/07; Policy Board Action 3/26/07

2008: Committee Action 1/14/08; Policy Board Action 3/10/08

2009: Committee Action 1/29/09; Policy Board Action 3/30/09

2010: Committee Action 1/20/10; Policy Board Action 3/08/10

2011: Committee Action 1/27/11; Policy Board Action 3/09/11

Attest: NFDA Policy Board (original resolution) Date: March 30, 1998 File Code: RES048/Policybd

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