

**National Board
of Directors**

January 4, 2016

Chair

John F. Emanuel, JD

Vice-Chairs

Penny J. Siewert

Karin A. Tollefson, PharmD

Secretary/Treasurer

Stephen R. O’Kane

Past Chair

Kathryn A. Forbes, CPA

Directors

Linn P. Billingsley, BSN

Larry Blumenthal

Michael F. Busk, MD, MPH

Cheryl A. Calhoun, BA, MBA

Christopher Carney

Michael V. Carstens

Mario Castro, MD, MPH

Kathleen Skambis, JD

Sumita B. Khatri, MD, MS

Robert K. Merchant, MD, MS

Stephen J. Nolan, Esq

Harry Perlstadt, Ph.D, MPH

Jane Z. Reardon, MSN

Al Rowe

Jeffrey T. Stein, CFP

Leticia W. Towns

Hanley Wheeler

Dear Representative:

The American Lung Association urges you to oppose H.R. 21, the so-called Midnight Rules Relief Act of 2017. Under this bill, Congress could permanently block multiple critical public health protections with a single vote.

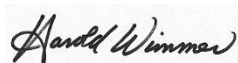
H.R. 21 is based on a misguided perception that rules finalized toward the end of a presidential administration have not been fully formed or vetted. The reality is that these rules, many of which protect public health, are often the product of years of work and public input.

H.R. 21 would expand the Congressional Review Act to allow *en bloc* disapproval of all regulations finalized near the end of a president’s term. The CRA is an extreme tool – it allows Congress to, with a vote of disapproval, not only erase a regulation, but also prevent the federal government from issuing any rule that is “substantially the same” in the future. Allowing an *en bloc* vote to permanently block a group of regulations is reckless and extreme.

If it became law, H.R. 21 could be used to block lifesaving public health protections that prevent death and disease caused by air pollution and tobacco.

We urge you to oppose this attack on lifesaving public health protections.

Sincerely,



Harold P. Wimmer
National President and CEO
American Lung Association

National President and CEO

Harold P. Wimmer

Advocacy Office:

1331 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 1425 North
Washington, DC 20004-1710
Ph: 202-785-3355 F: 202-452-1805

Corporate Office:

55 West Wacker Drive, Suite 1150 | Chicago, IL 60601
Ph: 312-801-7630 F: 202-452-1805 info@Lung.org