



Obama's regulations cost \$197 BILLION, \$848 per voter, \$784 million PER DAY

By [PAUL BEDARD \(@SECRETSBEDARD\)](#) • 1/11/16 3:53 PM

The price of the Obama administration's regulatory burden hit just shy of \$200 billion last year, or \$784 million for every day his government was open for business, according to a [new analysis by American Action Forum](#).

The cost in paperwork alone has reached 127.9 million paperwork hours, said the center-right policy center headed by former CBO chief Douglas Holtz-Eakin.

In a [new report provided to Secrets](#), AAF said, "2015 ranks as the second costliest year under President Obama, with \$19.4 billion in final rule annualized costs; 2012 ranks first, with an amazing \$32.7 billion." The larger price tag includes proposed and final rules.

The huge burden was driven by Obama's "Clean Power Plan," his climate change plan presented at a Paris summit late last year, and a ban on trans fats.

"2015 was the penultimate chapter in President Obama's regulatory legacy. The proposed rules this year (\$98 billion worth) will serve as the final pieces to the president's executive agenda. There will be an obvious push to finalize as many rules as possible before the next president takes office," said AAF in its report titled, "The Year in Regulation: EPA, Health Care Rules Drive Burdens," [written by Sam Batkins](#), AAF's directory of regulatory policy.

Obama's administration has been heavy with new regulations, led by his efforts on climate change and through Obamacare.

AAF is one of the nation's top regulation watchdogs.

To better explain the regulatory burdens on Americans, Batkins wrote:

How does \$197 billion in total burdens compare on a personal level?

— Per Capita: \$612.

— Per voter (18 years and older): \$838.

— Per day the government was open: \$784 million.

Paul Bedard, the Washington Examiner's "Washington Secrets" columnist, can be contacted at pbedard@washingtonexaminer.com.