



“Truth fears no trial.”

- PROVERB

Sound regulations make for

# Good Public Policy



## SOUND SCIENCE AND STATE REGULATIONS.

Federal, state and local regulations are typically designed to provide the optimum in health, safety and environmental protection, but frequently they either fail in the endeavor or hinder businesses, industries and even homeowners. And it's not so much that the regulation is onerous or burdensome, but that it's based on poor, inaccurate or obsolete data and science. In these cases, instead of protecting the public the regulations may actually cause harm or hinder economic development and growth.

## The Need for Reform:

A coalition of business, industrial and environmental groups support reforming the process by which the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania uses scientific reports and studies to determine rules and regulations governing state agencies. Such a change would allow the public, organizations, and businesses to challenge government information they believe is inaccurate.



Rather than benefit a particular industry, data quality reform would be equally accessible to a wide diversity of interests. Change is needed to ensure the integrity of information that is being used to guide decisions affecting the quality of life for the residents

### REFORM WILL BUILD THE PUBLIC'S CONFIDENCE AND TRUST IN STATE REGULATIONS AND GOVERNMENT

of Pennsylvania. By setting standards for the quality of information state agencies use as the basis for rules and regulations, the Data Quality Act would enable the public to feel confident that decisions are made on science that is objective and based in fact – science that is sound. This reform will build the public's confidence and trust in state regulations, providing assurance that decisions and rules are not arbitrary or politically motivated.

## THE DATA QUALITY ACT

The Data Quality Act of 2007 would permit anyone to challenge the data and/or science used to establish a regulation.

The legislation would require state agencies that submit proposed regulations for review and approval by the Independent Regulatory Review Commission to demonstrate the soundness and integrity of the source of the research on which the regulation is based.

In addition old regulations that were developed based on outdated scientific information or research, or fail to take into account advances in science could also be challenged

The data must meet acceptable research standards; research that is proven and has the approval among the professional interest groups involved.

And what is acceptable research? It's documentation, statistics and reports that are empirical, observable, replicable and testable.

With regulations based on this standard of research, companies, small businesses, even homeowners can work less costly and more effectively in meeting compliance. And the state can regulate more efficiently and fairly.