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**West Virginia Business & Industry Council
Urges Passage of REINS Act**

CHARLESTON, WV – Congress can reign in an overzealous, activist executive branch and assert its oversight authority by passing the *Regulations from the Executive In Need of Scrutiny* or **REINS Act** when the body comes into session this week. The members of West Virginia’s most diverse business trade coalition – the West Virginia Business & Industry Council (BIC) – support the REINS Act and urge West Virginia’s congressional representatives to vote for its passage.

“Unilateral actions by President Obama and the EPA have decimated West Virginia coal jobs and the state economy,” said Chris Hamilton, chairman of BIC. “Federal agencies, through the use of executive actions, have strangled America’s industrial sector by layering regulation after regulation with nothing but job loss to show for it. The REINS act will give Congress the check and balance necessary to override costly and misguided executive actions. We hope a vote on the legislation comes soon.”

The REINS Act would require any executive branch rule or regulation with an annual economic impact of \$100 million or more – designated by the White House's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as a 'major rule' – to come before Congress for an up-or-down vote before being enacted.

President-Elect Trump has signaled he would sign the REINS Act if passed by Congress.

“The REINS Act will allow Congress to slow down runaway agencies, like EPA, from implementing economically harmful policies,” said Hamilton. “It is time to pass this legislation into law to safeguard West Virginia and American jobs into the future.”

The West Virginia Business & Industry Council represents more than 60 West Virginia trade associations and businesses representing more than 395,000 employees. The organization’s goal is to enhance the business climate in West Virginia, and its members have been working to that end for more than three decades.

For additional information, contact Chris Hamilton at (304) 342-4153.

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