

May 27, 2026

The Honorable John R. Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rand Paul
United States Senate
295 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader Thune and Senator Paul:

We write to urge the passage of the Guidance Out of Darkness (GOOD) Act (H.R. 1515) and the Information Quality Assurance Act (IQAA) (H.R. 6329)—bipartisan transparency measures that [already passed](#) the House of Representatives. These practical reforms build on a strong bipartisan tradition of transparency, such as the Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023.

Regulatory agencies issue more than 3,000 new rules annually but also rely extensively on policymaking that is much harder to track: guidance documents, interpretive rules, policy statements, memoranda, FAQs, circulars, and other sub-regulatory materials. In essence, “regulatory dark matter.” In past Congresses, the Senate succeeded in advancing efforts to shed light on these directives with broad bipartisan support, and so, too, should this Senate.

The big problem with sub-regulatory materials is that they shape policy outcomes and impose significant, often underappreciated burdens on businesses, states, and local governments without being subject to the notice-and-comment process required by the Administrative Procedure Act, as detailed by the Administrative Conference of the United States in [its report](#), *Federal Agency Guidance: An Institutional Perspective*. The public has no opportunity to consider and comment on agency dark matter before it becomes policy.

The GOOD Act would help bring regulatory dark matter into public view by requiring a centralized, searchable online portal for such agency guidance documents. This commonsense reform would give the public, Congress, and regulated parties a more complete understanding of federal regulatory activity, just as the *U.S. Code* and the *Code of Federal Regulations* do for statutes and rules.

The IQAA would strengthen evidence-based policymaking, demystifying the process in a way that should appeal across partisan lines. The bill builds on the Information Quality Act of 2000 framework by reinforcing the directive that regulatory and guidance decisions be grounded in the best reasonably available data. Further, the bill promotes transparency by encouraging agencies to clearly document the data, models, assumptions, and methodologies underlying their actions and to make that information accessible to the public where practicable.



Just as importantly, the IQAA preserves and enhances opportunities for public engagement and correction. By enabling scrutiny of the evidence and challenges to data quality, this reform plan helps keep policymaking accountable and responsive. These principles both empower regulated entities to have a say and serve the broader public interest in bolstering sound, durable governance.

The 119th Congress has an opportunity to succeed in delivering reforms that make regulations more transparent and accountable to the American people. We urge the relevant committees and the full Senate to advance and pass these practical, bipartisan reforms.

Sincerely,

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