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# Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill (/stories/2017/1/6/1617638/-House-Republicans-move-to-strip-regulatory-power-from-the-executive-branch)



By Mark Sumner

(/user/Mark%20Sumner)

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2017/01/06 · 07:08



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Donald Trump happy to hand over non-profitable presiding to Paul Ryan

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Rather than distract Donald Trump from the critical business of wreaking vengeance (<http://www.politico.com/story/2017/01/trump-ohio-republicans-233261>) on local officials and tweeting about ratings (<https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/817348644647108609>), the House has moved to make it easier for them to handle all that tedious deregulating everything. The Koch-promoted REINS Act doesn't futz around with going after one thing at a time, it's goes after everything, all at once. (<https://www.desmogblog.com/2017/01/05/koch-reins-act-congress-trump>)

REINS dictates that a "major rule shall not take effect unless the Congress enacts a joint resolution of approval" and won't become law if Congress does not pass that resolution by "70 session days or legislative days, as applicable."

The idea of a bill that effectively North Carolina's the power of the executive, squelching action of agencies unless they get the mother-may-I from Congress, may actually seem attractive in the Age of Trump. But of course REINS isn't constructed to stop the wholesale stripping away of rules and guidelines that has the Trump team so eager get their torches on the rulebooks. Deregulating slips right on past without a word. It's anything new that has to get permission. The House is focused on keeping agencies crippled, ineffective, and, of course, ridding the system of anything that was created under President Obama.

Executive branch agencies will be able to set any rule they want, but only those that pass the scrutiny of Republicans in the House will be enacted.

Trump, having spoken directly to the Koch team about the bill, has already promised to sign it. After all, a bill that keeps him from wasting time on items that don't generate funds for the Trump Organization is a big win.

What horrors have the Koch's "Americans for Prosperity" specifically identified as targets of the REINS Act? Net Neutrality, the Clean Power Plan, and voting rights. Why these three? Because if the Koch brothers can regulate what Americans see on the Internet, and make it hard enough for people to express their will at the polls, it helps them make their money the old-fashioned way—burning the dirtiest fuel available.

As Trump has staffed up his cabinet, any illusions that there's a difference between the Koch agenda and the Trump agenda have been blown away.

During his presidential campaign, Trump referred to Republicans reliant on Koch money as "puppets" and said he turned down a meeting with the Koch brothers. Yet, the Trump administration is increasingly loaded with Koch allies.

The way in which the REINS Act seizes the regulatory powers of executive agencies may seem unconstitutional, but only if you've been exposed to a wide range of opinions and non-House-approved information. Hang on a second. They'll take care of that.

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(/user/Mark Sumner)

**Mark Sumner (/user/Mark Sumner)** Jan 06 · 07:08:02 AM (/comments/1617638/65038713#comment\_65038713)

Tip Jar

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(/user/dewtx)

**dewtx (/user/dewtx)** Jan 06 · 07:18:05 AM (/comments/1617638/65038780#comment\_65038780)

I wondered if such a bill would pass Constitutional muster under a Separation of Powers determination by the Supreme Court...but then I realized I said Supreme Court, so never mind.

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(/user/jrooth)

**jrooth (/user/jrooth) ▶ dewtx** Jan 06 · 08:27:41 AM (/comments/1617638/65039314#comment\_65039314)

Justices Thomas and Alito might be OK with this, but I have a hard time seeing Justice Kennedy or Chief Justice Roberts going along. It seems like a massive separation of powers violation to me.

Recommended 61 times

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(/user/Ohiodem1)

**Ohiodem1 (/user/Ohiodem1) ▶ jrooth**

Jan 06 · 08:56:39 AM (/comments/1617638/65039672#comment\_65039672)

Trump would sign a bill that subordinates his executive power to congress. No way. Trump is all about power, and won't give any away, particularly if it can affect his own business interests.



Recommended 7 times

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(/user/elenacarlana)

**elenacarlana (/user/elenacarlana) ▶ Ohiodem1**

Jan 06 · 10:46:16 AM (/comments/1617638/65040977#comment\_65040977)

Trump doesn't want to actually govern. There were probably some monetary promises made at the meeting with the Kochs. He's always wanted to be a billionaire, after all. So he'll sign away the ability of the executive branch to do anything without congressional approval. But probably keep executive power for himself. In other words, I'd bet the final bill affects executive agencies but not the chief executive. Mysteriously, Trump Enterprises will be a few billion richer. And the Kochs will get everything they want.

Recommended 19 times

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(/user/Ohiodem1)

**Ohiodem1 (/user/Ohiodem1) ▶ elenacarlana**

Jan 06 · 10:48:02 AM (/comments/1617638/65041009#comment\_65041009)

The Koch's want everything.

Recommended 11 times

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(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban) ▶ elenacarlana**

Jan 07 · 04:50:42 PM (/comments/1617638/65054290#comment\_65054290)

Which is—Feudalism revisited, with themselves as the stand-in for God...Just review the 1980 platform for Libertarianism, in which David Koch ran for Vice-President. It is NO government, except to jackboot the people and EVERYTHING including the elements are OWNED BY THESE SHITBAG NAZIS.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/committed)

**committed (/user/committed) ▶ Ohiodem1**

Jan 06 · 12:27:51 PM (/comments/1617638/65042446#comment\_65042446)

his house would rubber stamp everything he says

Recommended 2 times

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(/user/gosoxataboy)

**gosoxataboy (/user/gosoxataboy) ▶ Ohiodem1**

Jan 06 · 06:28:15 PM (/comments/1617638/65046269#comment\_65046269)

It is an open question. But it is really less about Trump and more about restricting future Democrats. Trump doesn't know much about these things so on day 1 he might go along.

Pretty good summary of the issues here:

[www.washingtonpost.com/...](http://www.washingtonpost.com/...)

(<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/01/03/congress-wants-to-rein-in-presidential-power-will-trump-sign-on/>)

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(/user/KJB Oregon)

**KJB Oregon (/user/KJB Oregon) ▶ jrooth**

Jan 06 · 09:22:50 AM (/comments/1617638/65040016#comment\_65040016)

Roberts is conceivably going to be Chief Justice for another twenty to thirty years. If he wasn't willing to piss away his legacy for the sake of an Obamacare tantrum, I don't see him getting behind something as ridiculous as this.

Recommended 23 times

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(/user/bobbyd12)

**bobbyd12 (/user/bobbyd12) ▶ KJB Oregon**

Jan 06 · 01:13:51 PM (/comments/1617638/65043123#comment\_65043123)

Who is going to sue? The executive branch would be the one effected so they would be the ones to sue. If they don't, I don't think anyone else has standing to sue on their behalf

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/Mercy Ormont)

**Mercy Ormont (/user/Mercy Ormo... ▶ bobbyd12**

Jan 07 · 04:40:03 PM (/comments/1617638/65054204#comment\_65054204)

Anyone who can prove they were in some way damaged by something can sue about it. So anyone whose health or business was hurt by the changes to executive department procedures can at least try to make the case that the change was unconstitutional, and the courts—including the Supreme Court—might well go along with it. It would take some time to wend its way through, though.

★ 0 Recommend

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(/user/42merlin)

**42merlin (/user/42merlin) ▶ jrooth**

Jan 06 · 12:44:28 PM (/comments/1617638/65042673#comment\_65042673)

Alito and Thomas would go along with Trump have a coronation as emperor instead of a swearing-in as president.

Recommended 5 times

[new]



(/user/Baileywick)

Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill

**Baileywick (/user/Baileywick) ▶ dewtx**

Jan 06 · 09:00:15 AM (/comments/1617638/65039726#comment\_65039726)

I have to agree wholeheartedly.

Isn't this something that would need 3/4 or 2/3 of congress to approve, altering the Separation of Powers?

I don't think these "new Russian" congresspersons are allowed to change the constitution with a simple majority vote.

Maybe they are going to try to set a "presidence" by doing this.

Maybe they are trying to curry favor with their new leader (Putin).

Putin would be proud of them.

Jefferson, not so much.

Recommended 23 times

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(/user/sigmarthebad)

**sigmarthebad (/user/sigmarthebad) ▶ Baileywick**

Jan 06 · 09:21:14 AM (/comments/1617638/65039996#comment\_65039996)

First, this isn't a budget issue, so subject to filibuster. As such I don't see it getting past the Senate.

That said, if it WERE to become law, it'd be entirely Constitutional and legal until it was challenged in court. But who would challenge it if Trump decided to sign it? It would stay law until the next Democratic president.

Recommended 12 times

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(/user/cfm)

**cfm (/user/cfm) ▶ sigmarthebad**

Jan 06 · 09:33:42 AM (/comments/1617638/65040133#comment\_65040133)

What about regulations from the "independent agencies" such as SEC, Federal Reserve? Presumably those would also fall under this law. I can see the Fed taking it to court, at least with its current make up.

Recommended 8 times

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban) ▶ sigmarthebad**

Jan 07 · 04:56:30 PM (/comments/1617638/65054334#comment\_65054334)

Time to call and END to this bullshit. The Kochs are the worst people on Earth, thinking that only billionaires are human; it's time to call the election impaired, and do it over. It's time to take back our lives. These asswipes DO NOT CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO US. New Election! Do-over!

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/localokie)

**localokie (/user/localokie) ▶ dewtx** Jan 06 · 09:34:39 AM (/comments/1617638/65040144#comment\_65040144)

The constitution says that all laws come from Congress. Regulatory agencies get what power they have from Congress when they create an agency, not from the president.

If anything this change would technically be reinstating checks and balances into the creation of laws.

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/cfm)

**cfm (/user/cfm) ▶ localokie**

Jan 06 · 09:41:57 AM (/comments/1617638/65040231#comment\_65040231)

Administration of law (including regulations about how the law shall be implemented) is, constitutionally, the job of the executive (Article II, Section 3). The Congress always has the power to adjust law, including re-writing it, if the executive interprets it incorrectly.

One way to read this law is that it is giving law-making (legislative) power to the executive, with Congress left with a veto on the executive laws. This is also unconstitutional...

But these are republican's making up laws, so there's no reason to expect them to make sense or be constitutional.

Recommended 16 times

[new]



(/user/Chris Andersen)

**Chris Andersen (/user/Chris Andersen) ▶ cfm**

Jan 06 · 10:47:47 AM (/comments/1617638/65041005#comment\_65041005)

This. Congress legislates. The President executes. If Congress doesn't like the way the President executes they can change the law to address a specific concern. They cannot make a blanket, "everything you do is subject to Congressional approval" law because that effectively subordinates the President to Congress. In other words, it turns him into a Prime Minister.

Recommended 18 times

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(/user/anjaspapa)

**anjaspapa (/user/anjaspapa) ▶ Chris Andersen**

Jan 06 · 03:22:18 PM (/comments/1617638/65044697#comment\_65044697)

It turns him into a puppet of Congress. (oh, wait...)

Recommended 1 time

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(/user/solublefish)

**solublefish (/user/solublefish) ▶ localokie**

Jan 06 · 11:01:16 AM (/comments/1617638/65041170#comment\_65041170)

Regulatory bodies are created in the public interest, in order to safeguard the public (as workers, as consumers, and as citizens) from the abuses that are always attendant on concentrations of private power (like corporations, e.g.). In order to serve that public purpose, the regulatory body must be staffed with knowledgeable men and women who make it their daily business to know and understand not only the law, but also the industry itself which they regulate. Their work is based in science and data as well as in public policy.

This design makes sense. It is not reasonable to suppose that a member of Congress have the scientific expertise and knowledge of the industry to make sound decisions on regulation in the public interest — such things are the product only of years of study and experience. And this, in turn, is why regulatory bodies are also granted broad power to write or re-write regulations according to their best determination of the science and the public interest. If they were not so empowered, their existence would be pointless.

And that, of course, clarifies the obvious aim of the law proposed here by the Republicans (and notably concocted by Koch organizations). It is meant to render the regulatory agencies unable to pursue their purpose — to protect the public interest — by deliberately depriving them of the power to do so.

In short: the clear purpose of the law proposed is not to bring political praxis in line with the demands of the Constitution, as your simplistic construction of 'constitutionality' pretends. The purpose is to sacrifice the public interest to the profit interest of corporations — and to do so even if it means subverting over a century of historical precedent and making a mockery of Law.

Recommended 12 times

[new]



(/user/paul987109)

**paul987109 (/user/paul987109) ▶ solublefish**

Jan 07 · 03:11:58 PM (/comments/1617638/65053544#comment\_65053544)

It's CRIME. They're all Criminal Fucks, pure and simple.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/llozano)

**llozano (/user/llozano) ▶ localokie**

Jan 06 · 02:19:13 PM (/comments/1617638/65043943#comment\_65043943)

No. I believe you are wrong. A regulation is not a law it is an administrative function. Congress passes "bills" and these have money attached to them.

Technically all bills have money attached to them. Not many things that Congress does is without some form of funding. What they are trying to do is change the rules for the Executive branch which is a violation of the division of power. But as has been said already when they control all branches of government it may be a moot point.

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban) ▶ localokie**

Jan 07 · 04:58:15 PM (/comments/1617638/65054354#comment\_65054354)

But Congress is also in the hands of Koch, true? All these wacko fanatics, haters and true shitbags.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/TexasTom)

**TexasTom (/user/TexasTom) ▶ dewtx**



For that matter, exactly how does one interpret what a “major rule” is?

REINS dictates that a “major rule shall not take effect unless the Congress enacts a joint resolution of approval”

The problem with this is that there is a lot of regulatory activity that is necessary for the normal functioning of this country, and if most of it has to go through the congress, that would just freeze things up completely, and not necessarily in the way that the Koch brothers have in mind.

To cite an example that I'm familiar with, if Clear Channel (sorry, Iheartmedia) wants to boost the power of one of their FM radio stations through a facilities upgrade, that requires that the FCC change the FM table of allotments — and, guess what, that's a rule change! So does this mean that Congress would have to sign off on allowing a Class C0 FM station to upgrade to a Class C?

Recommended 5 times

[new]



(/user/lynb)

**lynb (/user/lynb) ▶ dewtx** Jan 06 · 01:22:51 PM (/comments/1617638/65043240#comment\_65043240)

It's OK, we all tend to forget some details because there is so much SHIT to keep up with. We think of the SC as our life line and that is stretched and strained right now.

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/Baphomet)

**Baphomet (/user/Baphomet) ▶ dewtx**

Jan 06 · 02:01:05 PM (/comments/1617638/65043721#comment\_65043721)

And who will make tah determination? HaHaHaHa!

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/Reva Madison)

**Reva Madison (/user/Reva Madison) ▶ dewtx**

Jan 06 · 02:03:43 PM (/comments/1617638/65043755#comment\_65043755)

Yeah, it will be a Trump court as soon as he can sign off on it. He may even have an idea how to appoint someone without the senates approval too.

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/MikePhoenix)

**MikePhoenix (/user/MikePhoenix) ▶ dewtx**

Jan 06 · 02:35:34 PM (/comments/1617638/65044137#comment\_65044137)

Shouldn't get that far unless the GOP gets rid of the filibuster. If we can't get 41 Democrats to filibuster shit like this, they are truly fucked.

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/reasonsshouldrule)

**reasonsshouldrule (/user/reasonsshouldrule) ▶ MikePhoenix**

Jan 06 · 05:13:54 PM (/comments/1617638/65045621#comment\_65045621)

The GOP WILL get rid of the filibuster. And since they now control everything, they can gerrymander and change voting rights so that they ALWAYS stay in power. We are now in a dictatorship, led by fascists.

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/attyrose)

**attyrose (/user/attyrose) ▶ reasonsshouldrule**

Jan 06 · 05:24:36 PM (/comments/1617638/65045710#comment\_65045710)

That is how they have taken control of the majority of States and the federal government. They have been working on voter suppression laws and gerrymandering for years now and as long as they are not challenged in Court and beaten down, they will remain in control.

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/MikePhoenix)

**MikePhoenix (/user/MikePhoenix) ▶ reasonsshouldrule**

Jan 06 · 11:23:13 PM (/comments/1617638/65048272#comment\_65048272)

Wow, we might as well give up then.

★ 0 Recommend

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(/user/paul987109)

**paul987109 (/user/paul987109) ▶ reasonsshouldrule**

Jan 07 · 03:19:16 PM (/comments/1617638/65053608#comment\_65053608)

...led by CRIMINAL FUCKS. Period.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/paul987109)

**paul987109 (/user/paul987109) ▶ paul987109**

Jan 07 · 03:20:27 PM (/comments/1617638/65053618#comment\_65053618)

Call the FBI. The CIA. I don't know. The Thought Police??

★ 0 Recommend

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(/user/reasonsshouldrule)

**reasonsshouldrule (/user/reasonsshouldrule) ▶ dewtx**

Jan 06 · 05:12:34 PM (/comments/1617638/65045609#comment\_65045609)

Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill  
 Yes, this seems unconstitutional. No different than the House passing a bill that the Supreme Court rulings are not the law of the land unless followed by a correlating House law. It is dangerous territory, but those who haven't been able to see the dangers in the alt-right republicans now in Congress have brought disaster on all of us.

Recommended 3 times

[new]



(/user/annieli)

**annieli (/user/annieli)** Jan 06 · 07:19:27 AM (/comments/1617638/65038787#comment\_65038787)

Trump, having spoken directly to the Koch team about the bill, has already promised to sign it. After all, a bill that keeps him from wasting time on items that don't generate funds for the Trump Organization is a big Win.



Yet, the Trump administration is increasingly loaded with Koch allies.

Recommended 30 times

[new]



(/user/sidnora)

**sidnora (/user/sidnora)** ▶ **annieli** Jan 06 · 10:11:15 AM (/comments/1617638/65040593#comment\_65040593)

Can't we have Shrek for president instead?

Recommended 6 times

[new]



(/user/morris22)

**morris22 (/user/morris22)** ▶ **annieli**

Jan 06 · 11:22:16 AM (/comments/1617638/65041427#comment\_65041427)

Boy, Trump is really out of place in that image. The one's around him are far less frightening than he is.

Me, I'd vote for Curious George as president. At least he's "curious" about things.

Recommended 4 times

[new]



(/user/lynb)

lynb (/user/lynb) ▶ annieli Jan 06 · 01:24:54 PM (/comments/1617638/65043264#comment\_65043264)

If you remember he didn't want to be the "acting president" and take of of the domestic and international items. That would be beneath the new regime leader. He wanted his vice pres to take care of those detailed items so letting the GOP have that jobs will work for him. ....not not for the rest of the American public.

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/timsmith)

timsmith (/user/timsmith) Jan 06 · 07:22:55 AM (/comments/1617638/65038801#comment\_65038801)

The kochs are the federal government at this point. The fact that enough americans want this to happen is disgraceful. The only tension in our government is between putin and the kochs. Putin's bitch will step in when he is told.

Recommended 38 times

[new]



(/user/imanoldcoot)

imanoldcoot (/user/imanoldcoot) ▶ timsmith

Jan 06 · 07:59:26 AM (/comments/1617638/65039084#comment\_65039084)

At this point they, those who keep voting republican, have no real idea what they want other than what they are told they want from the folks over at Fox. I thoroughly believe that if Fox no longer existed the country would slowly turn itself around, but I digress.

Recommended 21 times

[new]



(/user/timsmith)

timsmith (/user/timsmith) ▶ imanoldcoot

Jan 06 · 08:53:55 AM (/comments/1617638/65039641#comment\_65039641)

I doubt it. The billionaires would just fill the void with something else. The genius of fox is that they found a way to monetize the billionaires advertising.

Recommended 11 times

[new]



(/user/paul987109)

paul987109 (/user/paul987109) ▶ imanoldcoot

Jan 07 · 03:22:50 PM (/comments/1617638/65053638#comment\_65053638)

Include RW radio and you may have a point.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/jfromga)

jfromga (/user/jfromga) ▶ timsmith

Jan 06 · 08:53:39 AM (/comments/1617638/65039636#comment\_65039636)

Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill no, most Americans are ignorant enough to allow this to happen by opting out of politics and voting for Republicans. Too many people who consider themselves informed about politics don't even know who the Kock Bros. are.

Recommended 12 times

[new]



(/user/timsmith)

**timsmith (/user/timsmith)** ▶ **jfromga**

Jan 06 · 09:49:06 AM (/comments/1617638/65040328#comment\_65040328)

It doesn't matter if they know who the kochs are. The kochs still control them through their messaging in the media. They are making their voting decisions based on allowing themselves to be manipulated by the kochoptopus whether they are aware of it or not. That is why they will vote for opposite things in consecutive elections with vehement opposition to what they supported last time. That is why they claim the moral high ground while voting for an admitted sexual predator. They believe what they are told at any given time.

Recommended 9 times

[new]



(/user/paul987109)

**paul987109 (/user/paul987109)** ▶ **jfromga**

Jan 07 · 03:25:52 PM (/comments/1617638/65053662#comment\_65053662)

Blame the media, the schools even. The schools are supposed to teach kids how to be rational, right? To think clearly, intelligently? Or is this just a demented myth?

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Baileywick)

**Baileywick (/user/Baileywick)** ▶ **timsmith**

Jan 06 · 09:02:47 AM (/comments/1617638/65039771#comment\_65039771)

You misspelled federal. In this case it's "feral".

Recommended 10 times

[new]



(/user/Baileywick)

**Baileywick (/user/Baileywick)** ▶ **timsmith**

Jan 06 · 12:21:40 PM (/comments/1617638/65042345#comment\_65042345)

And yes, Trump IS choosing the Russian oligarchs over the American oligarchs.

What times we live in, huh?

Recommended 3 times

[new]



(/user/left koster)

**left koster (/user/left koster)** ▶ **Baileywick**

Jan 06 · 01:01:28 PM (/comments/1617638/65042969#comment\_65042969)



Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill

These “times” have disappearing lines between American or Russian oligarchs remembering Koch wealth came from Papa Koch serving Russia long ago! Me thinks it’s now any oligarch calling the global economy their turf, mirroring international conglomerates where borders are bothersome. Koch family patriarch learned well from Russia, Putin’s proud, the enemy’s global not local.

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/siwabab)

**siwabab (/user/siwabab)** ▶ **timsmith**

Jan 07 · 05:03:09 PM (/comments/1617638/65054398#comment\_65054398)

The Western states need to BACK OFF and ally with someone better, like Canada. No fucking Koch dictatorship—stop this garbage NOW.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/CwV)

**CwV (/user/CwV)** Jan 06 · 07:25:36 AM (/comments/1617638/65038811#comment\_65038811)

This is bad.

Regulation is the central business of the Executive branch.

To hand that over to one of the most dysfunctional organs in Washington shouldn’t be constitutional.

But this:

any illusions that there’s a difference between the Koch agenda and the Trump agenda have been blown away

terrifies me.

Because, the Kochs unleashed will wreak havoc on US and when the bulk of the people start to catch on and get motivated to protest, tRump will respond with fascism and the Kochs will sit back laughing while he puts the boot to US.

Recommended 43 times

[new]



(/user/Baileywick)

**Baileywick (/user/Baileywick)** ▶ **CwV**

Jan 06 · 09:12:03 AM (/comments/1617638/65039887#comment\_65039887)

Hence the recent moves to militarize law enforcement with military grade weaponry, bringing so many ex-military into law enforcement, and putting so many ex-military high ranking officials into the Trump inner circle.

We may see what REAL thuggery looks like, and it ain’t some black guy with a backwards cap singing Rap.

Recommended 13 times

[new]



(/user/PJEvans)

**PJEvans (/user/PJEvans)** ▶ **Baileywick**

Jan 06 · 09:26:09 AM (/comments/1617638/65040055#comment\_65040055)

Police have been getting military surplus for years — it's not all that "recent".

Recommended 5 times

[new]



(/user/Orcas George)

**Orcas George (/user/Orcas George) ▶ PJEvans**

Jan 06 · 10:21:59 AM (/comments/1617638/65040705#comment\_65040705)

Years being "since the last Republican started a war in Iraq"

Recommended 5 times

[new]



(/user/solublefish)

**solublefish (/user/solublefish) ▶ Orcas George**

Jan 06 · 11:08:09 AM (/comments/1617638/65041250#comment\_65041250)

No, years meaning decades. The practice arguably began as early as the late '60s, with the formation of the first SWAT team. But yes: the 1033 Program ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1033\\_program](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1033_program)) authorizing transfer of military supplies to police began in 1997 — somewhat before "the last Republican", i.e. during the Clinton Administration, at the height of the 'war on Drugs' hysteria.

Recommended 6 times

[new]



(/user/ctexrep)

**ctexrep (/user/ctexrep) ▶ solublefish**

Jan 06 · 11:25:00 AM

(/comments/1617638/65041467#comment\_65041467)

Shush...stop with the facts.

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/Paul C)

**Paul C (/user/Paul C) ▶ solublefish**

Jan 06 · 11:57:45 AM

(/comments/1617638/65041936#comment\_65041936)

But it really hasn't become an issue until recently, and much of the reason for that is the funneling of surplus heavy equipment and armaments from the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars.

A defining characteristic of the Bush administration was the melding of a militarized police force with FBI oversight and tactics to quell political protests through brute force and infiltration. We can expect a similarly thugish response from Trump.

Recommended 3 times

[new]



(/user/Baileywick)

**Baileywick (/user/Bail...** ▶ **Paul C**

Jan 06 · 12:23:02 PM

(/comments/1617638/65042373#comment\_65042373)

On steroids.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/paul987109)

**paul987109 (/user/paul9871...** ▶ **solublefish**

Jan 07 · 03:30:29 PM

(/comments/1617638/65053701#comment\_65053701)

Watch, "The House I Live In," on the VICE Channel, about the drug war. Very revealing!

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/qazplm)

**qazplm (/user/qazplm)** Jan 06 · 07:29:06 AM (/comments/1617638/65038834#comment\_65038834)

Well America, this is what you wanted, government blown up.

Recommended 20 times

[new]



(/user/JustaJ0e)

**JustaJ0e (/user/JustaJ0e)** ▶ **qazplm** Jan 06 · 09:45:45 AM (/comments/1617638/65040286#comment\_65040286)

Does anyone here know if someone has started a bullet list of all these new "House Rules" they are passing/trying to pass ? These things are coming so fast now it is hard to keep up. It would also be nice to have that list to point to when the fruits start to come to bare.

After being the LEAST productive congress EVER ... it seems they have passed more in the last 3 days than they had the previous 3 years ... of course the motivation to do evil seems to really get them going.

Recommended 10 times

[new]



(/user/paul987109)

**paul987109 (/user/paul987109)** ▶ **JustaJ0e**

Jan 07 · 03:34:06 PM (/comments/1617638/65053736#comment\_65053736)

Of course, this SHOULD be in huge block letters on the front page of every newspaper in America. Now *that's* a joke. The media just **continues** to prove its worth.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Iberian)

**Iberian (/user/Iberian)** Jan 06 · 07:30:02 AM (/comments/1617638/65038842#comment\_65038842)

Let's litigate what makes a "major rule" a major rule.

Anyhow let us become a parliamentary democracy once and for all and stop the stupid charade of the Republic

Recommended 12 times

[new]



(/user/solublefish)

**solublefish (/user/solublefish)** ▶ **Iberian**

Jan 06 · 11:09:13 AM (/comments/1617638/65041268#comment\_65041268)

If I am a corporation and it affects my bottom line, it is a major rule.

There, defined.

Recommended 5 times

[new]



(/user/Neuroscientist2)

**Neuroscientist2 (/user/Neuroscientist2)** Jan 06 · 07:51:23 AM (/comments/1617638/65039019#comment\_65039019)

This is a dumb idea on so many levels. Regulatory agencies could just pass a lot of minor rules that create more disruption than one big fix. It allows for narrow targeting of individual companies to shake them down for graft, but not actually fixing anything. The reason that we have all these agencies making rules is that members of Congress do not want to take the time and effort to study the situation and pass laws.

Recommended 28 times

[new]



(/user/wordene)

**wordene (/user/wordene)** ▶ **Neuroscientist2**

Jan 06 · 08:57:09 AM (/comments/1617638/65039678#comment\_65039678)

More to the point — the "agencies" being talked about here are part of the Executive Branch of government and not part of the Legislative Branch. Any rational group of Supreme Court Justices would rule this as unconstitutional within minutes of it being brought to them.

Recommended 12 times

[new]



(/user/dewtx)

**dewtx (/user/dewtx)** ▶ **wordene**

Jan 06 · 09:13:18 AM (/comments/1617638/65039908#comment\_65039908)

The operative word being "rational".

Recommended 12 times

[new]



(/user/PJEvans)

**PJEvans (/user/PJEvans)** ▶ **Neuroscientist2**

Jan 06 · 09:27:56 AM (/comments/1617638/65040076#comment\_65040076)

Half of the members of Congress think that the planet is 6000 years old, and dinosaurs coexisted with people — and they don't mean birds, either.

This is why we have professional regulators and full-time regulating agencies.

Recommended 14 times

[new]



(/user/marina)

**marina (/user/marina)** ▶ **PJEvans**

Jan 06 · 09:54:42 AM (/comments/1617638/65040403#comment\_65040403)

People who actually know things.

Recommended 8 times

[new]



(/user/paul987109)

**paul987109 (/user/paul987109)** ▶ **PJEvans**

Jan 07 · 03:37:12 PM (/comments/1617638/65053760#comment\_65053760)

Religion is a big part of the quagmire. It makes nonsensical thinking normal.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ▶ **Neuroscientist2**

Jan 07 · 05:05:14 PM (/comments/1617638/65054412#comment\_65054412)

Lazy and selfish as always...

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/jfromga)

**jfromga (/user/jfromga)** Jan 06 · 07:56:34 AM (/comments/1617638/65039060#comment\_65039060)

Congress is so incompetent at governing, especially at the level of details needed for actual administration of a law, no new rules are likely to make it through that system.

Recommended 11 times

[new]



(/user/zoom314)

**zoom314 (/user/zoom314)** ▶ **jfromga**

Jan 06 · 12:20:49 PM (/comments/1617638/65042320#comment\_65042320)

Members of the GOP/Republican Party are incompetent, you mean, there fixed the omission.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/terrypinder)

**terrypinder (/user/terrypinder)** Jan 06 · 08:04:10 AM (/comments/1617638/65039115#comment\_65039115)the Freedom Caucus already has a list of 282 regulations they want gone. I've been pouring through them. You can read it here. (<https://meadows.house.gov/first-100-days>)



Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill

Some they want gone long predate Obama like prevailing wage, and the rule that bans supersonic air travel over land in the US from 1973 (yes, really.) Quite a few are red-meat fundamentalist conservatism (the Mexico City rule and anything involving Climate Change.) It's worth a deep dive diary if anyone has the time.

I only found one that made any sense (eliminating some office in the State Dept that was duplicating another office in the State Dept that does the same job and merging them) and even then I suspect some other agenda.

Recommended 22 times

[new]



(/user/vexed weasel)

**vexed weasel** (/user/vexed weasel) ▶ **terrypinder**

Jan 06 · 09:32:14 AM (/comments/1617638/65040113#comment\_65040113)

bans supersonic air travel over land in the US

"make sonic boom again"

Recommended 4 times

[new]



(/user/Orcas George)

**Orcas George** (/user/Orcas George) ▶ **vexed weasel**

Jan 06 · 10:25:11 AM (/comments/1617638/65040731#comment\_65040731)

That is actually a thing. There is an areospace company named "boom" and they are trying to get rid of this rule.

Having lived when this was legal it is hard to overstate how disruptive sonic booms are.

Recommended 5 times

[new]



(/user/vexed weasel)

**vexed weasel** (/user/vexed weasel) ▶ **Orcas George**

Jan 06 · 11:09:32 AM (/comments/1617638/65041271#comment\_65041271)

That is an actual quote from the document...

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/Paul C)

**Paul C** (/user/Paul C) ▶ **vexed weasel**

Jan 06 · 12:02:23 PM (/comments/1617638/65042017#comment\_65042017)

And once again real life becomes a parody of itself.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/terrypinder)

**terrypinder (/user/terrypinder) ▶ Orcas George**

Jan 06 · 12:17:35 PM (/comments/1617638/65042266#comment\_65042266)

which is hilarious because all thru the document there are whines about “this regulation enables crony capitalism” and “this one gives corporate welfare.” There’s one for Musk’s Tesla too.

Recommended 3 times

[new]



(/user/trumpeloil)

**trumpeloil (/user/trumpeloil) ▶ vexed weasel**

Jan 06 · 12:18:36 PM (/comments/1617638/65042288#comment\_65042288)

We don't need no stinking windows...

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/CaliSista)

**CaliSista (/user/CaliSista) ▶ terrypinder**

Jan 06 · 12:08:20 PM (/comments/1617638/65042113#comment\_65042113)

It's crazy how the front page picture is one of people in soup lines. Is the stated goal of the first 100 days?

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/terrypinder)

**terrypinder (/user/terrypinder) ▶ CaliSista**

Jan 06 · 12:15:53 PM (/comments/1617638/65042235#comment\_65042235)

heh, I thought the same thing! meanwhile in reality unemployment is 4.7% nationally.

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/CaliSista)

**CaliSista (/user/CaliSista) ▶ terrypinder**

Jan 06 · 12:45:44 PM (/comments/1617638/65042693#comment\_65042693)

I read through the whole thing and it is truly terrifying. Some of them should just be shortened to “Fuck You Obama”. The first thing on the list is the school lunch program. A whole page on getting rid of stuff because it related to “the left’s Green Agenda”.

Food Safety? *Nope*

Regulation of wastes? *Too costly for businesses*

College campus sexual assault regs? *Too onerous for the accused.*

Public Health? *Theocracy and forced birth for everyone.*

These are some horrible horrible people.

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ▶ CaliSista

Jan 07 · 05:20:54 PM (/comments/1617638/65054538#comment\_65054538)

Probably; they would have wanted a different end than the New Deal, which provided great infrastructure, while employing people, kind of like President Obama's proposal, which was doubtless based on it. Perhaps they would prefer a return to slavery? Corporate dictatorship? They do not deserve our country.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Ajaume)

**Ajaume (/user/Ajaume)** ▶ terrypinder

Jan 06 · 02:48:28 PM (/comments/1617638/65044331#comment\_65044331)

"The rule that bans supersonic air travel over land in the US from 1973 (yes, really.) "

Ah, the anti-Concorde law. If you cannot beat them, forbid them. Now it may be real that supersonic flight is bad for the people and ecosystem in the neighborhood of the flightpath. But at the time, in Europe, it looked very much a mix of protectionist/vindictive thing.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/paul987109)

**paul987109 (/user/paul987109)** ▶ terrypinder

Jan 07 · 03:46:51 PM (/comments/1617638/65053824#comment\_65053824)

I love the Bullshit NAMES these clowns use, just like their usual "patriotic" phrases, and "flag-wrapping" images, to appeal to the abysmally ignorant:

"Freedom Caucus"

"Club For Growth"

"Americans For Prosperity"

and many more.

That by itself should scream **deception**.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/David54)

**David54 (/user/David54)** Jan 06 · 08:17:27 AM (/comments/1617638/65039215#comment\_65039215)

Everybody needs to respond to this by getting involved with your local Democratic Party, rebuilding , taking control of local government, including the registrar of voters office, County Clerk, etc. registering voters and finding the next generation of public servants to go in and fix this mess, cause it will take a generation.

Recommended 16 times

[new]



(/user/zoom314)

**zoom314 (/user/zoom314)** ▶ David54

Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill

Jan 06 · 12:22:43 PM (/comments/1617638/65042366#comment\_65042366)

Democrats also need to vote, in all elections, not stay at home, and let others make decisions for them...

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/Ajaume)

**Ajaume (/user/Ajaume)** ▶ **David54** Jan 06 · 02:50:05 PM (/comments/1617638/65044353#comment\_65044353)

Or an alternative party willing to compromise with the Democratic party when relevant.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/David54)

**David54 (/user/David54)** ▶ **Ajaume**

Jan 06 · 03:05:10 PM (/comments/1617638/65044511#comment\_65044511)

Shhhhhheeeeeeeeeessssshhhhhh.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/Ellid)

**Ellid (/user/Ellid)** Jan 06 · 08:21:18 AM (/comments/1617638/65039254#comment\_65039254)

So clearly unconstitutional that even under a conservative Supreme Court, this is toast.

Recommended 8 times

[new]



(/user/delver)

**delver (/user/delver)** ▶ **Ellid** Jan 06 · 10:10:34 AM (/comments/1617638/65040585#comment\_65040585)

You are so generous to that sector.

Recommended 4 times

[new]



(/user/bobbyd12)

**bobbyd12 (/user/bobbyd12)** ▶ **Ellid** Jan 06 · 03:18:02 PM (/comments/1617638/65044652#comment\_65044652)

So who would sue

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ▶ **bobbyd12**

Jan 07 · 05:21:40 PM (/comments/1617638/65054542#comment\_65054542)

The people.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Apprenticegeezzer)

**Apprenticegeezzer (/user/Apprenticegeezzer)** Jan 06 · 08:24:46 AM (/comments/1617638/65039286#comment\_65039286)

I'm puzzled why they would clip the wings, in advance. of their own president.

Recommended 6 times

[new]



(/user/Audri)

**Audri (/user/Audri)** ▶ **Apprenticegeezzer**

Jan 06 · 08:27:07 AM (/comments/1617638/65039309#comment\_65039309)

Time to cut out the middle man, I guess.

Recommended 7 times

[new]



(/user/jakebob)

**jakebob (/user/jakebob)** ▶ **Apprenticegeezzer**

Jan 06 · 10:42:13 AM (/comments/1617638/65040926#comment\_65040926)

A black hole could be an awesome source of energy if it doesn't suck you in while you're trying to control it.

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/elenacarlana)

**elenacarlana (/user/elenacarlana)** ▶ **Apprenticegeezzer**

Jan 06 · 11:04:08 AM (/comments/1617638/65041208#comment\_65041208)

He doesn't care. Executive agencies make our lives better. If they don't line his pockets, he is not interested. The Koch brothers will line his pockets to get what they want. He'll have more time to tweet. Meanwhile, the Repugs who never trusted him will be in control — he's not the President of the Repug establishment.

*"If at first you don't succeed, call it version 1.0." - Author Unknown*

Recommended 3 times

[new]



(/user/neznamo)

**neznamo (/user/neznamo)** Jan 06 · 08:36:50 AM (/comments/1617638/65039415#comment\_65039415)

Drumpf doesn't need any *executive* power if the kochbros, Pence, and the House are gonna run everything. He can simply kick back and sign whatever they shove under his nose, do the PR work, and use his already considerable *personal* power to keep everyone fearful and in line.

Recommended 5 times

[new]



(/user/Paul C)

**Paul C (/user/Paul C)** ▶ **neznamo** Jan 06 · 12:05:14 PM (/comments/1617638/65042074#comment\_65042074)



Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill  
He will run the Security State and ensure that anyone labeled an activist ends up in a hospital with his/her skull caved in.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/Sister Havana)

**Sister Havana (/user/Sister Havana)** ▶ neznamo

Jan 06 · 01:06:13 PM (/comments/1617638/65043032#comment\_65043032)

He's Grover Norquist's dream - he can hold a pen and sign every terrible bill that gets to his desk.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/renaissance grrrl)

**renaissance grrrl (/user/renaissance grrrl)** Jan 06 · 08:38:27 AM (/comments/1617638/65039439#comment\_65039439)

It hasn't passed the Senate yet, though, right??? Doesn't it need to? Time to call all your senators and complain. Like, right away.

Recommended 6 times

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ▶ renaissance grrrl

Jan 07 · 05:23:18 PM (/comments/1617638/65054557#comment\_65054557)

We need a Petition!

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Hinoema01)

**Hinoema01 (/user/Hinoema01)** Jan 06 · 08:43:09 AM (/comments/1617638/65039494#comment\_65039494)

I've been saying for awhile now that their endgame is to nullify the presidency. Here's the proof.

Recommended 7 times

[new]



(/user/Clío2)

**Clío2 (/user/Clío2)** Jan 06 · 08:52:23 AM (/comments/1617638/65039614#comment\_65039614)

And simultaneously there is this:

[www.dailykos.com/...](http://www.dailykos.com/...) (<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2017/01/05/1617492/-Republicans-just-silenced-the-federal-workforce-from-political-discourse>)

A rules change that has been interpreted as a threat to silence any individual federal employees who annoy Congress, by letting Congress reduce their individual salary to \$1...

which makes even more sense, however, in context that The Rump's henchpersons have demanded lists of individual federal employees working on climate change...and on sex and gender equality programs. All these individuals, according to the rules change, could be deprived of their individual salaries in one swoop. These are just among other recent preparations for a near-instantaneous sea-change in the next weeks.

Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill Un-Constitutional? Very likely. They don't care, and it'll be months to years before that may be, case by case, resolved.

Friends, what we are seeing is a strategy of shock and awe -- against an open society and its protections, as evolved so far in the world's oldest existing approach to self-government.

And just as with the glaciers dissolving at the poles, whatever comes out of this, much that we thought solid will have melted away and our landscape will never be the same.

Recommended 26 times

[new]



(/user/TheOrchid)

**TheOrchid (/user/TheOrchid) ▶ Clio2**

Jan 06 · 09:02:14 AM (/comments/1617638/65039762#comment\_65039762)

Yes, I posted a diary on that same story yesterday, too. One of the most important stories of the last week, and this site let it (and the one you link to) slide down the Recent list with barely a "meh". I guess there was a new tweet to respond to or something.

Recommended 8 times

[new]



(/user/PJEvans)

**PJEvans (/user/PJEvans) ▶ TheOrchid**

Jan 06 · 09:29:42 AM (/comments/1617638/65040096#comment\_65040096)

There are a lot of things going on right now. We normally get five or six diaries on an given major item.

Recommended 4 times

[new]



(/user/marina)

**marina (/user/marina) ▶ PJEvans**

Jan 06 · 10:00:21 AM (/comments/1617638/65040466#comment\_65040466)

Here's another one, making it easier to give away federal lands:

[www.dailykos.com/...](http://www.dailykos.com/...)

(<http://www.dailykos.com/stories/2017/1/4/1616768/-Republicans-introduce-measure-to-make-it-easier-to-give-away-federal-lands-for-free#read-more>)

Recommended 3 times

[new]



(/user/elenacarlana)

**elenacarlana (/user/elenacarlana) ▶ TheOrchid**

Jan 06 · 11:07:31 AM (/comments/1617638/65041244#comment\_65041244)

I have noticed that with several authors on the same issue, the issue actually gets less attention as they all slide off the list. I know I usually pick just one to read and then ignore the rest on the same subject. There's only so much time to read.

*"If at first you don't succeed, call it version 1.0." - Author Unknown*

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ▶ **Clio2** Jan 07 · 05:24:23 PM (/comments/1617638/65054563#comment\_65054563)

Secession, anyone?

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/kovie)

**kovie (/user/kovie)** Jan 06 · 08:55:35 AM (/comments/1617638/65039659#comment\_65039659)

Sounds unconstitutional to me, granting executive powers to the legislature, a de facto line item veto for congress. All the more reason to block Trump's SCOTUS nominees.

Recommended 9 times

[new]



(/user/jgkojak)

**jgkojak (/user/jgkojak)** Jan 06 · 08:56:00 AM (/comments/1617638/65039663#comment\_65039663)

This is unworkable. The sheer number of rules/regs issued, sometimes for good reason responding to new medical info, for instance, is astounding. Seems like it would be unconstitutional, and that even a Roberts or Kennedy would think so.

Recommended 11 times

[new]



(/user/jakebob)

**jakebob (/user/jakebob)** ▶ **jgkojak** Jan 06 · 11:03:10 AM (/comments/1617638/65041195#comment\_65041195)

The whole damn enchilda chingada no es factible. It would have made a good case study for a MBA thesis, but I sure wish there was a way to experiment on the phenomenon in a controlled laboratory environment with less potential for harming environment and its occupants. I guess that's US now, a 'meth lab of democracy'.

Don't try this in your country, kids. This demonstration has been staged with trained experts. Not.

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/heavenlytails)

**heavenlytails (/user/heavenlytails)** Jan 06 · 08:57:29 AM (/comments/1617638/65039686#comment\_65039686)

Trump is a real estate agent. He is a "buy now pay later" President. We do not want to mortgage our future. Democrats should fight against this mentality.

Recommended 7 times

[new]



(/user/TheOrchid)

**TheOrchid (/user/TheOrchid)** Jan 06 · 08:58:23 AM (/comments/1617638/65039703#comment\_65039703)

Actually, historically there was much debate and hand-wringing about Congress ceding so much lawmaking authority to the Executive. It was finally acceded to as a matter of efficiency (Congress didn't have the time or throughput to get into the nitty-gritty of rules for implementing laws), helped by like-minded Democratic majorities in Congress. This is unfortunate, but not (as I see it) per se unconstitutional.

This is, however, a direct result of Democrats failing to work together, and of Democrats writing of “red” areas. It’s also a direct result of Democrats abandoning their populist roots; when they embraced the rich (as in political donors), it became much more difficult to argue that the David & Charles Kochs of the world were the enemy.

Recommended 3 times

[new]



(/user/supremeliberal)

**supremeliberal (/user/supremeliberal)** Jan 06 · 09:17:22 AM (/comments/1617638/65039950#comment\_65039950)

**Their a different between politics and insanity ,and Republican blair the line,and Democrats should not join their insanity ,just because Trump was elected and as regard to those illegal electors ,this something a court should decide**

Recommended 3 times

[new]



(/user/delver)

**delver (/user/delver)** Jan 06 · 10:09:31 AM (/comments/1617638/65040577#comment\_65040577)

Deregulating slips right on past without a word. It’s anything new that has to get permission.

But deregulatory language is still a “change”, how do they make that distinction?

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/SARBil)

**SARBil (/user/SARBil)** Jan 06 · 10:15:42 AM (/comments/1617638/65040634#comment\_65040634)

So Mitch McConnell does want to be king of Oz pulling ALL the strings.

The President (nominate Sc justice by denial), Senate Majority Leader, and the Judiciary — All in one.

F’ing a\$\$hole.

Do we have anyone that doesn’t want to be King — Same shit with tRump, Dick Cheney, GWB, Tom Delay, etc.

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/jakebob)

**jakebob (/user/jakebob)** ▶ **SARBil** Jan 06 · 12:25:01 PM (/comments/1617638/65042403#comment\_65042403)

It would be nice if there were some reliable lab test for sociopathic tendencies, and yes, preoccupation with acquiring and holding power IS a sociopathic tendency.

As it is, we are left to rely on the judgment of fallible humans who can all too easily be lured into webs of evil by the prospect of a piece of the action and a cut of the spoils, or revenge on their perceived enemies.

Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill  
One thinks of Frank Herbert's *Dune*, where young royals, the product of lengthy inbreeding / selection, are tested to determine "if you are a human or an animal".

Our own Christian myths (yes MYTHS to people who parrot the words of wisdom and then go do the opposite) tell us to love and obey God by loving his imperfect creatures (the main evidence of God's awesomeness), and yet "the very elect will be deceived" and worship false gods of luxury, upmanship, and all-too-fleeting dominion over what turns out to be such a disappearingly small part of Creation. Make no mistake, the donald trumps and jerry falwells of the world have sold their birthright for what they will discover was just a timeshare.

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/liberalxtian)

**liberalxtian (/user/liberalxtian)** Jan 06 · 10:36:28 AM (/comments/1617638/65040856#comment\_65040856)

Do I want regulatory power in the hands of a Republican Congress or a President Trump? Both seem equally painful.

Recommended 4 times

[new]



(/user/Garrett)

**Garrett (/user/Garrett)** ▶ **liberalxtian**

Jan 06 · 11:06:27 AM (/comments/1617638/65041233#comment\_65041233)

I think this proposal would be just wildly dysfunctional and disruptive. It is the far worse option. And that the existing system for how Congress grants rulemaking authority to regulatory agencies is far too large and complex and established, to want to think about based on the short term situation anyways.

Having the technical and legal experts at an agency go through the very elaborate rulemaking process, but then putting major rules up to a quick Congressional vote, would be a disaster.

Recommended 3 times

[new]



(/user/SARBILL)

**SARBILL (/user/SARBILL)** Jan 06 · 10:42:02 AM (/comments/1617638/65040921#comment\_65040921)

So with a "dandy" approval rating of 18%, these JAs are now wanting to run the entire processes of the Government.

Wait, .....you see it was all Obama's fault with a 55% approval rating. But, now with tRump and a trifecta — we'll be the best and have a mandate (STFU Ryan.)

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/Magnum05)

**Magnum05 (/user/Magnum05)** Jan 06 · 11:03:13 AM (/comments/1617638/65041197#comment\_65041197)

How many days before the army is Goose Stepping! 90?

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/cardinalbird)

**cardinalbird (/user/cardinalbird)** Jan 06 · 11:41:04 AM (/comments/1617638/65041678#comment\_65041678)

They have nothing better to do than pass legislation that's unconstitutional....

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/Paul C)

**Paul C (/user/Paul C)** ▶ **cardinalbird**

Jan 06 · 12:09:06 PM (/comments/1617638/65042125#comment\_65042125)

Hopefully the Democrats won't line up behind it. I don't believe we have heard a peep from them on this yet

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/Sister Havana)

**Sister Havana (/user/Sister Havana)** ▶ **Paul C**

Jan 06 · 01:08:12 PM (/comments/1617638/65043060#comment\_65043060)

Cuellar and Peterson (of course) voted with the Republicans for it. I'm shocked Kyrsten Sinema didn't join them.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ▶ **Paul C**

Jan 07 · 05:33:31 PM (/comments/1617638/65054633#comment\_65054633)

Do democrats want a dictatorship? Why?? Eventually they will also suffer. No one wins in a dictatorship...

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Magorn)

**Magorn (/user/Magorn)** Jan 06 · 12:11:57 PM (/comments/1617638/65042177#comment\_65042177)

Curious whether there are any regulatory geeks on this thread other than me and how they think this would apply to the Independent Regulatory agencies?

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/LakeSuperior)

**LakeSuperior (/user/LakeSuperior)** Jan 06 · 12:12:24 PM (/comments/1617638/65042184#comment\_65042184)

On this....

What horrors have the Koch's "Americans for Prosperity" specifically identified as targets of the REINS Act? Net Neutrality, the Clean Power Plan, and voting rights. Why these three? Because if the Koch brothers can regulate what Americans see on the Internet, and make it hard enough for people to express their will at the polls, it helps them make their money the old-fashioned way—burning the dirtiest fuel available.

REINS can't affect the current Clean Power Plan. That rule has already been enacted as a final rule. As near as I can tell REINS doesn't have *ex post facto* effect.

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/radv005)

**radv005 (/user/radv005) ▶ LakeSuperior**

Jan 06 · 12:21:42 PM (/comments/1617638/65042346#comment\_65042346)

It will take them 5 minutes to come up with plan to do away with anything and everything they want to and *literally* no one can stop them. Let's not keep pretending that there are any foundational aspects of governance and laws that will be in any way respected.

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/Pendragon)

**Pendragon (/user/Pendragon)** Jan 06 · 12:15:19 PM (/comments/1617638/65042223#comment\_65042223)

★ *T h e - S n a k e* ★ An old woman was walking down the road when she saw a poisonous snake stiff, frozen and dying from the cold. She rescued the snake and carried it back to her home, where she nursed it back to health. They became friends and lived together for many months. One day they were going into town, and the old woman picked him up and the snake bit her. Repeatedly. "O God," she screamed, "I am dying! Why? I was your friend. I saved your life! I trusted you! Why did you bite me?"

The snake looked up at her and said, "Lady, you knew I was a snake when you first picked me up."

TRUMPSTERS - Stop blaming everybody else except yourself — You knew he was a snake

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/biryanifan)

**biryanifan (/user/biryanifan) ▶ Pendragon**

Jan 06 · 12:23:33 PM (/comments/1617638/65042384#comment\_65042384)

Ironically, Trump himself recited this story at a lot of his rallies, with the snake interpreted as a stand-in for immigrants and Muslims. Projection much?

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/miklkit)

**miklkit (/user/miklkit) ▶ Pendragon**

Jan 06 · 12:35:41 PM (/comments/1617638/65042566#comment\_65042566)

The Trumpettes are snakes themselves who are proud of their corrupt government.

They want that for all of us.

[new]



(/user/Pendragon)

**Pendragon (/user/Pendragon)** Jan 06 · 12:16:18 PM (/comments/1617638/65042243#comment\_65042243)

Isn't it scary to think that the world we live in could end with just a 140 character Tweet.

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/radv005)

**radv005 (/user/radv005)** Jan 06 · 12:17:33 PM (/comments/1617638/65042265#comment\_65042265)

And some people around here thought the Koch Bros weren't happily on board the clown Trump train. They might be holed up in the kaboose, but they'll be damned if they're not very much in control.

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/Pendragon)

**Pendragon (/user/Pendragon)** Jan 06 · 12:17:38 PM (/comments/1617638/65042267#comment\_65042267)

I keep hoping to wake up and read or hear that Donald Trump died overnight. His cause of death was due to extreme blood loss due to self-inflicted hickeys located on his buttocks.

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/Sister Havana)

**Sister Havana (/user/Sister Havana)** ▶ **Pendragon**

Jan 06 · 01:10:01 PM (/comments/1617638/65043085#comment\_65043085)

But that would leave us with a President Pence, who would like nothing more than to turn this country into the Republic of Gilead.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/glb3)

**glb3 (/user/glb3)** Jan 06 · 12:17:57 PM (/comments/1617638/65042275#comment\_65042275)

Screwing the Pooch is the Republican's new budget stimulation fantasy.

Recommended 1 time

[new]



(/user/dinotrak)

**dinotrak (/user/dinotrak)** Jan 06 · 12:18:53 PM (/comments/1617638/65042293#comment\_65042293)

Stupid bill with incredibly bad optics. Maybe the GOP is tired of holding a majority in the House. 2018 could make them sorry anything like this ever came about.

Oh, the ironies, given SCOTUS gyrations, as this cannot be remotely constitutional.

Recommended 1 time



[new]



(/user/gosoxataboy)

**gosoxataboy (/user/gosoxataboy) ▶ dinotrak**

Jan 06 · 06:34:05 PM (/comments/1617638/65046321#comment\_65046321)

I think this is one where most voters will have no idea what it is about and won't care. It will be presented as a way to limit exec overreach. Even the Office of Ethics fiasco which people got worked up about may not have resonated if the Office just happed to be named differently.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/dinotrak)

**dinotrak (/user/dinotrak) ▶ gosoxataboy**

Jan 06 · 07:40:05 PM (/comments/1617638/65046849#comment\_65046849)

This is one of those places where you find out if people are actually as smart as they think they are. While it's easy to blame stupid voters, smart people will figure out how to talk to them.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban) ▶ dinotrak**

Jan 07 · 05:37:13 PM (/comments/1617638/65054654#comment\_65054654)

If they are destroying democracy—THEY WILL NOT HAVE MORE ELECTIONS EXCEPT SET UP BETWEEN THEIR OWN DICTATOR CLASS—LIKE GUATEMALA. No Democrat except the false ones will be invited. Only Nazis need apply...

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/rfhusker)

**rfhusker (/user/rfhusker)** Jan 06 · 12:22:31 PM (/comments/1617638/65042363#comment\_65042363)

Trump might want to re-think this over reach. I get that he doesn't want to govern, but I also know that he isn't the kind of person who would give anything away—least of which would be *power*.

What a maroon---Obama will be gone, so why would he want to sign away his own ability to use his executive authority? Makes no sense.

If he figures it out he will tweet Congress into backing down.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/Cream Puff)

**Cream Puff (/user/Cream Puff)** Jan 06 · 12:26:38 PM (/comments/1617638/65042425#comment\_65042425)

There's an easy way to fight this: Zealous enforcement of every existing rule on the books. Blanket denials of exemptions to any and all applicants. Agencies already have the authority to conduct snap inspections, issue fines, cease and desist orders, etc. It's their best source of leverage against deregulators.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/fajunga07)

**fajunga07 (/user/fajunga07)** Jan 06 · 12:30:33 PM (/comments/1617638/65042489#comment\_65042489)

Better start a phone blitz

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/Fredsgirl1)

**Fredsgirl1 (/user/Fredsgirl1)** Jan 06 · 12:32:45 PM (/comments/1617638/65042526#comment\_65042526)

I try to keep a lighter side to any comments I make but this is all getting far too serious for levity. Now I am really scared. Time to start packing and moving back to the land of my birth while I have a chance. I would have done it already but I have 4 cats to take into consideration. Many months in kennels to satisfy rabies regulations in the UK would kill at least two of them. I don't want to leave, I love this country, I love my home, and have been here for the majority of my life. But I am too old to look on while the US smashes itself on the rocks, and too sick to do anything to stop it.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/oldroman)

**oldroman (/user/oldroman)** Jan 06 · 12:44:22 PM (/comments/1617638/65042672#comment\_65042672)

I say that the next time the Democrats control Congress, they pass a law declaring the GOP a terrorist organization, gather up all Republicans at the State or higher level, and ship them to Guantanamo for water boarding.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ▶ **oldroman**

Jan 07 · 05:40:46 PM (/comments/1617638/65054670#comment\_65054670)

ABSOLUTELY...Anything that threatens the integrity of the US constitution is what needs to be the target. We defend that and BILL OF RIGHTS, including the amendments that have kept the document flexible and up to date.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/bobbyd12)

**bobbyd12 (/user/bobbyd12)** Jan 06 · 01:16:27 PM (/comments/1617638/65043154#comment\_65043154)

The only one who can "sue" is the party that is effected and has standing. Unless the Trump Administration itself sued, no one else would have standing to sue.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/loueebee)

**loueebee (/user/loueebee)** Jan 06 · 01:24:02 PM (/comments/1617638/65043254#comment\_65043254)

Promised the Kochs??? What the hell does our president-elect think he's doing!!!

Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill  
TRUMP,...you represent the citizens of the this country! Don't "bend over" for the powerful, obscenely rich Koch Brothers (2 people!!) The Kochs are intent on raping/destroying our Democracy, impoverishing 98% of the country for the twisted benefit of their fellow billionaires!!!

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban) ▶ loueebee**

Jan 07 · 05:43:32 PM (/comments/1617638/65054699#comment\_65054699)

We OWE THESE FUCKS NOTHING. Fuck these shitbags. Time for these people to sign off —We do not defend bloated Nazis at the expense of our country.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/EJC74)

**EJC74 (/user/EJC74)** Jan 06 · 01:43:11 PM (/comments/1617638/65043499#comment\_65043499)

What gets me is that this is the "family values", "Christian", "Patriot", "Freedom Loving" party...they are everything but.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban) ▶ EJC74** Jan 07 · 05:43:57 PM (/comments/1617638/65054700#comment\_65054700)

Polar opposites...

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/hiddensoy)

**hiddensoy (/user/hiddensoy)** Jan 06 · 01:43:51 PM (/comments/1617638/65043510#comment\_65043510)

I hope all the GOPs that are up for re-election in 2018 lose! Pulling all this crap on the American people only makes them look stupid and only out for themselves — not their constituents. Why do these voters keep voting the same assholes in? I hope their constituents finally wake up and say "you don't get my vote!" Let them get a middle class job AND no more lobbying jobs for them!

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/SQD35R)

**SQD35R (/user/SQD35R) ▶ hiddensoy**

Jan 06 · 04:41:57 PM (/comments/1617638/65045403#comment\_65045403)

The voters keep voting these people in because the voters don't care about the stuff the government does. Bread and circuses is all they care about. All this is too long and "hard" to research. Why elect a Twit-er because he is one of them. Anything longer than 140 characters is too much and "boring".

God (sorta), guns, forced birth, anti-gays-immigrant-\_\_\_\_\_. Is more important then clean air, open internet, and clean water.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ▶ SQD35R

Jan 07 · 05:45:30 PM (/comments/1617638/65054710#comment\_65054710)

False male god, who hates everyone but white men...

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Rorytroy)

**Rorytroy (/user/Rorytroy)** Jan 06 · 02:02:07 PM (/comments/1617638/65043733#comment\_65043733)

I never want to wish ill on anyone but with Charles and David Koch I will make an exception. Die motherfuckers!

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ▶ Rorytroy

Jan 07 · 05:46:14 PM (/comments/1617638/65054722#comment\_65054722)

Here here!

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/hlsmlane)

**hlsmlane (/user/hlsmlane)** Jan 06 · 02:50:16 PM (/comments/1617638/65044357#comment\_65044357)**HEH**

The whole idea of rule making is to free congress of the nitty-gritty of detail in the implementation of legislation. Now they're going to study all those details and render a considered judgement? Nah, it's just a cute way to kill all new regulation.

Recommended 2 times

[new]



(/user/pmc6)

**pmc6 (/user/pmc6)** Jan 06 · 03:41:35 PM (/comments/1617638/65044886#comment\_65044886)

The power-grab blitzkrieg has begun.

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/jpageburke)

**jpageburke (/user/jpageburke)** Jan 06 · 05:25:01 PM (/comments/1617638/65045715#comment\_65045715)

God help us

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/notfamous)

**notfamous (/user/notfamous)** Jan 06 · 05:26:00 PM (/comments/1617638/65045724#comment\_65045724)

Well. At least they're efficient. /s

Recommended 0 times

[new]



(/user/guidon)

**guidon (/user/guidon)** Jan 06 · 06:03:33 PM (/comments/1617638/65046072#comment\_65046072)

The Kochs wrote the book on over-reach...it's our job to make sure it backfires. Thanks Mark.

★ 1 Recommend

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ► **guidon** Jan 07 · 05:48:54 PM (/comments/1617638/65054746#comment\_65054746)

NO KOCKS—THESE ARE DICTATORS. TRAITORS.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Team Pro Bono)

**Team Pro Bono (/user/Team Pro Bono)** Jan 06 · 07:51:52 PM (/comments/1617638/65046949#comment\_65046949)

So are we still allowed to read Daily Kos? Is Daily Kos still allowed to write Daily Kos? Because this article certainly doesn't appear to have been approved by the Republicans.

Huh...I wonder who could be knocking on my door at this hour...

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ► **Team Pro Bono**

Jan 07 · 05:51:59 PM (/comments/1617638/65054782#comment\_65054782)

They don't have their act together yet—you have to remember that to many police and soldiers this shit is a horrifying to them as to us. I hate to say it but these assholes are about to fracture the country. Not all police and soldiers will be on board.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/shiboof2)

**shiboof2 (/user/shiboof2)** Jan 06 · 08:26:13 PM (/comments/1617638/65047226#comment\_65047226)

OK. My question: at what point does SOMEONE, someone with brains and a semblance of constitutional gravity step up and do something about what is happening? I am trying to remind myself that what these cheesy a\$\$wipes are doing seems to be stripping OUR rights and freedoms without a single care for what happens to millions of voters in this country as a result. Is anyone or any group going to be able to do something before civil war breaks out? Because I am dead serious

Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill when I say it is becoming crystal clear that nothing can or will stop this breakdown of every safeguard and program that will help the majority in this miserable country, including those FUNDS that we have have paid into our entire lives. At what point do we say enough?

And THEN WHAT?

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ▶ shiboof2

Jan 07 · 05:55:45 PM (/comments/1617638/65054804#comment\_65054804)

Stand up-- DEMAND A NEW ELECTION ON THE BASIS OF BLATANT INTERFERENCE BY A THIRD PARTY, AND PRAY THAT THE YOKELS WISE UP & UN-YOKELIZE, realizing what's at stake—many have caught on to what is at stake, even though the NAZI-owned media will not admit it. THEY ARE COMPLICIT IN THIS TAKEOVER.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/William L)

**William L (/user/William L)** Jan 07 · 10:36:08 AM (/comments/1617638/65050942#comment\_65050942)

The Neo-Republican Party has no redeeming attributes. It must be eradicated.

★ 1 Recommend

[new]



(/user/William L)

**William L (/user/William L)** Jan 07 · 10:44:13 AM (/comments/1617638/65051012#comment\_65051012)

The Koch Brothers are the vilest traitors this country has seen since the Civil War, and they had no ancestors here for that event. They are third-generation Ellis Island traitor imports. Put them away where they cannot hear a human voice or see a light again until they die, and put them on camera so the citizens of this country can watch them go mad en route to hell.

★ 1 Recommend

[new]



(/user/The Gabber)

**The Gabber (/user/The Gabber)** Jan 07 · 10:49:55 AM (/comments/1617638/65051056#comment\_65051056)

Make no mistake about it ..... the GOP has declared war on the United States, on democracy!

★ 2 Recommend

[new]



(/user/siwaban)

**siwaban (/user/siwaban)** ▶ The Gabber

Jan 07 · 05:56:44 PM (/comments/1617638/65054811#comment\_65054811)

And we must answer or go down without a fight.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/guyachs)

**guyachs (/user/guyachs)** Jan 07 · 10:57:45 AM (/comments/1617638/65051125#comment\_65051125)

Trump and the Kochs never really separated. Robert Mercer and his daughter brought in Steve Bannon to run Trump's campaign. They are really the people in control. Trump is just the distraction out front running the media in and out of rabbit holes. Mercer is part of the Koch network. They want to dismantle much of the government that works for the people. They want the government to work only for them. That is very obvious from the cabinet appointments which I'm sure were picked by Bannon and the Mercers.

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(/user/Citrine2)

**Citrine2 (/user/Citrine2)** Jan 07 · 11:24:45 AM (/comments/1617638/65051394#comment\_65051394)

God how I wish Obama had just gone ahead and appointed Garner to the Supreme Court. The smug, self satisfied look on Ryan's face in the photo makes me sick. trump is just their front guy. Ineffectual, cartoonish and stupid. They let him rant on so the attention will be on him and not them. I have said it before and I'll say it again. Ryan and O Connell are the two most dangerous men in the country. While trump is making a fool of himself with everyone watching, the rats are eating all the grain.

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(/user/friendly16)

**friendly16 (/user/friendly16)** Jan 07 · 12:12:58 PM (/comments/1617638/65051895#comment\_65051895)

FYI one of the Koch brothers is a proud sponsor of PBS Nova. What an irony. Pbs should get him by the britches and kick him to the curb! Sometimes. It is hard to watch Nova when I see his disgraceful name.

Come on Pbs get rid of this loser!

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/cmeegan)

**cmeegan (/user/cmeegan)** Jan 07 · 12:15:43 PM (/comments/1617638/65051931#comment\_65051931)

Those bastards in the above photo sure look smug! I'd like to wipe their shit-eating grins right off their faces!

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/FRE000)

**FRE000 (/user/FRE000)** Jan 07 · 12:30:36 PM (/comments/1617638/65052102#comment\_65052102)

Perhaps we need a constitutional amendment requiring that everything in a bill be relevant to the main subject of the bill. It should not be possible to attach irrelevant items to a bill. For example, a military appropriations bill should not have an attachment concerning the FCC.

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(/user/smallsaz)

**smallsaz (/user/smallsaz)** Jan 07 · 12:39:20 PM (/comments/1617638/65052182#comment\_65052182)

I hate that smirk Ryan has all the time!

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(/user/bertusikal)

**bertusikal (/user/bertusikal)** Jan 07 · 02:00:17 PM (/comments/1617638/65052944#comment\_65052944)

What kind of 'vision' do these people have when their first order of business is to control information on the web, destroy any policy that deals with global warming, and suppress the vote? At one time this blatant attempt to force such an agenda by questionable means would have been all over the papers and TV, back when we had a semi-functional democracy. Today it will barely get covered. They won't stop until the country is a smoking ruin.

★ 0 Recommend

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(/user/Debra Lessard)

**Debra Lessard (/user/Debra Lessard)** Jan 07 · 02:41:28 PM (/comments/1617638/65053261#comment\_65053261)

These men should be tried for TREASON. If you vote for this good luck winning in 2018. Go ahead and do it. I dare you to even try. You are going to have a old fashioned revolution on your hands. You believe you have protesters now. Just you wait. I see the "FRENCH REVOLUTION" in the cards of America. Keep it up Congress. Mitch and his silent coup against Obama. You will not win again for years.

★ 1 Recommend

[new]



(/user/katmom )

**katmom (/user/katmom )** Jan 07 · 03:41:58 PM (/comments/1617638/65053779#comment\_65053779)

I'm beginning to wonder if we are longer in the US or are a colony again, of Russia this time.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Eugene H Schwaier)

**Eugene H Schwaier (/user/Eugene H Schwaier)** Jan 07 · 04:01:35 PM (/comments/1617638/65053925#comment\_65053925)

Now is the time for ALL good patriots to come to the aid of their nation! Not since December 7,1941 have existed a greater threat to the future of this country. Review, resist, regain our freedom and democracy again.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/cynthiaisabelle)

**cynthiaisabelle (/user/cynthiaisabelle)** Jan 07 · 05:19:33 PM (/comments/1617638/65054526#comment\_65054526)

I think of November 8, 2016 as the day the electoral college murdered America. And I cry everyday for my country. And it's going to get worse. What have we allowed to happen? I can't help but think that if we had term limits for Congress that we would not have the Ryans and McConnells thinking they own the government and selling it to the NRA and the Kochs etc is ok. We would not have a raving lunatic picking his cabinet of racist thugs to lead our country. We allowed this. We have whole sections of this country who are under educated. Education usually opens minds. So many



Kochs, House, and Trump gut voting rights, internet freedom, and clean air with a single bill  
Americans are living in poverty. There should not be one homeless person in the greatest country on the planet. We allowed all this to happen. What are we going to do to leave a country that our children deserve. Because they do not deserve the mess we allowed to happen.

★ 0 Recommend

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(/user/cynthiaisabelle)  
**cynthiaisabelle (/user/cynthiaisabelle)** Jan 07 · 05:32:50 PM (/comments/1617638/65054625#comment\_65054625)  
The electoral college has to go.

★ 0 Recommend

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