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LEGISLATION AT RECORD LEVELS UNDER COALITION — LIBERALS AND ALP MUST COMMIT TO DRAMATIC CUTS TO REGULATION

According to a new report *Policy without Parliament – The Growth of Regulation in Australia* released today by the free market think tank, the Institute of Public Affairs, the federal Coalition Government has passed more legislation per year in office than any other government since federation.

“Every year the Commonwealth Parliament now passes ten times more legislation than it did fifty years ago,” said the report's author, IPA Research Fellow, Chris Berg.

“Unfortunately, despite the Coalition's belief in smaller government, the size of government and the amount of regulation imposed upon Australians has increased significantly since 1996.”

The report also details how federal agencies have grown dramatically in the last decade. The budget and staff of the three major regulatory bodies - the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, and the Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority - have nearly doubled in the last decade.

“The vastly expanding body of law and regulation not only has an economic and social impact, but also delegates increasing power to unelected regulators. Regulations, and the regulatory agencies which administer them, cast a gigantic shadow over Australia's economy and society,” said Mr Berg.

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Policy without Parliament – The Growth of Regulation in Australia is available at www.ipa.org.au.

Average pages of Commonwealth Acts of Parliament passed per year, by government

