

## ABSTRACT

American Bar Association Section of Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice

*Twenty-First Century Governance: Improving the Federal Administrative Process  
A Report for the President-Elect of the United States*

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Abstract by Jessica G. Jacobs

This report by the American Bar Association Section of Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice contains a series of recommendations for improving the federal administrative process, and is directed toward the 2000 President-Elect, whose identity was unknown at that time.

The first recommendation suggests reform of the investigation, nomination, and confirmation of senior executive officers by initiating early selection of candidates, simplifying paperwork, and reducing delay in the confirmation process. The second recommendation urges the new President to make use of an established system of centralized executive oversight of significant agency rules. This recommendation also encourages the President to implement a coordinated statutory structure of regulatory analytical requirements, and to promote the use of information technology to increase public awareness and participation. The third recommendation encourages use by political appointees of the knowledge and experience of career civil servants, in order to generally improve policy creation and to ensure recruitment of highly qualified individuals. Finally, the fourth and last recommendation prompts the President to re-establish an agency that follows the contours of the since de-funded Administrative Conference of the United States.

The Article begins by emphasizing the non-partisan, consensus nature of the recommendations and discussing the composition of the Section. Next, the Article lists all four major recommendations, and then discusses each recommendation in detail. The Article concludes by emphasizing the importance of improving the administrative process.