



The War on Regulation: Good for Corporations, Bad for the Public

Speaker Biographies

U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.)

Elizabeth Warren is the senior U.S. Senator from Massachusetts, elected in 2012. She is a member of the U.S. Senate Committees on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP); Armed Services; and the Special Committee on Aging. Recognized as one of the nation's top experts on bankruptcy and the financial pressures facing middle class families, she was the driving force behind the creation of the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). President Barack Obama asked her to set up the new agency to hold Wall Street banks and other financial institutions accountable and to protect consumers from financial tricks and traps often hidden in mortgages, credit cards and other financial products. In the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis, she served as chair of the Congressional Oversight Panel for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP). Warren was a law professor for more than 30 years, most recently at Harvard Law School, and is the author of 11 books, including *This Fight is Our Fight*, *A Fighting Chance*, and *The Two-Income Trap*. She lives with her husband Bruce Mann in Cambridge, Massachusetts and has two children and three grandchildren.

Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh

Attorney General Brian E. Frosh was sworn in as Maryland's 46th Attorney General on January 6, 2015, pledging to bring fairness, equality and justice to all Marylanders. Frosh is focused on cracking down on unfair, deceptive and predatory business practices, on protecting our natural resources and on bringing transparency and openness to government. He also is working to keep our neighborhoods safe and to prevent crime on our streets and on the internet. Prior to being elected attorney general, Frosh served for 28 years in the Maryland General Assembly – eight years in the Maryland House of Delegates and 20 years in the Maryland State Senate, where he was chairman of the Judicial Proceedings Committee for 12 years.

Robert Weissman

Robert Weissman is president of Public Citizen and chair of the Coalition for Sensible Safeguards. He spearheads Public Citizen's effort to loosen the chokehold corporations and the wealthy have over our democracy. Weissman is a staunch public interest advocate and activist, as well as an expert on a wide variety of issues ranging from corporate accountability and government transparency, to trade and globalization, to economic and regulatory policy. With a wide variety of expertise, Weissman has used his knowledge and skill to challenge abusive corporate practices in many different arenas with the common goal of protecting consumers and fighting for a government that works for the people.

Rachel Weintraub

Rachel Weintraub is the legislative director and general counsel for Consumer Federation of America (CFA). Previously, she was the director of product safety. Rachel has worked with Consumer Federation of America since 2002. Her primary focus is advocacy on product safety issues. Weintraub represents CFA on behalf of consumers before the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Congress, state legislatures and within voluntary standard setting organizations. Additionally, she works on civil justice, regulatory reform and financial services issues as well as on a wide range of internal legal issues.

Heidi Shierholz

Heidi Shierholz leads Economic Policy Institute's (EPI) policy team, which monitors wage and employment policies coming out of Congress and the administration and advances a worker-first policy agenda. Throughout her career, she has educated policymakers, journalists and the public about the effects of economic policies on low- and middle-income families. Shierholz was an economist at EPI from 2007 to 2014, and she rejoined EPI in 2017. From 2014 to 2017, she served the Obama administration as chief economist at the U.S. Department of Labor. She worked with Labor Secretary Thomas Perez and other department leaders to develop and execute initiatives to boost workers' rights, wages and benefits, to protect workers' savings and to increase workplace safety. She also provided economic analysis on the wages of jobs added during the recovery, brought heightened attention to the need for paid family leave, and fought for new regulations guaranteeing overtime pay for millions of workers and paid sick leave for over a million federal contract workers. Shierholz has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Michigan, an M.S. in statistics from Iowa State University and a B.A. in mathematics from Grinnell College.

William Buzbee

William Buzbee is a professor of law at Georgetown University Law Center. Buzbee regularly testifies in Congress on regulatory and environmental issues. Publications include the books *Preemption Choice*, *Fighting Westway* and *Environmental Protection: Law and Policy*. He has published in numerous top law reviews and has two forthcoming articles on recent deregulatory actions, “The Tethered President: Consistency and Contingency in Administrative Law” (Boston University Law Review) and “Agency Statutory Abnegation in the Deregulatory Playbook” (Duke Law Journal). Before becoming a professor, he worked as a lawyer in New York City at the Natural Resources Defense Council, the law firm Patterson Belknap and clerked for federal judge Jose A. Cabrandes. He is a graduate of Columbia Law School and Amherst College.

Lisa Heinzerling

Lisa Heinzerling is the Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. professor of law at Georgetown. She specializes in administrative law, environmental law and food law. She has published several books, including *Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing*, a critique of the use of cost-benefit analysis in health, safety and environmental policy and many articles and book chapters. From January 2009 to December 2010, Heinzerling served as a political appointee in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), first as climate counsel to the EPA administrator and then as associate administrator of EPA’s Office of Policy.

Rena Steinzor

Rena Steinzor is the Edward M. Robinson Professor at the University of Maryland Carey Law School, where she teaches administrative law, food safety law, and advanced courses on the regulatory system. She is the author of *Why Not Jail? Industrial Disasters, Corporate Malfeasance, and Government Inaction* (Cambridge University Press 2014). She co-authored, with Sidney Shapiro *The People’s Agents and the Battle to Protect the American Public: Special Interests, Government, and Threats to Health, Safety, and the Environment* (University of Chicago Press 2010). She wrote *Mother Earth and Uncle Sam: How Pollution and Hollow Government Hurt Our Kids* (University of Texas Press 2007). She also was the editor, with Wendy Wagner, of *Rescuing Science from Politics* (Cambridge University Press 2006), with Christopher Schroeder, of *A New Progressive Agenda for Public Health and the Environment* (Carolina Academic Press 2005). Steinzor is a founder, immediate past president and member scholar of the Center for Progressive Reform. She has testified before Congress on several occasions, most recently regarding the impact of health, safety and environmental regulations on the economy.

Betsy Southerland

Betsy Southerland earned a PhD in Environmental Science and Engineering and worked in state and local government as well as private consulting before joining EPA in 1984. She was a manager in both the Water and Superfund programs at EPA before retiring in August 2017 as director of the Office of Science and Technology.

Andrea Carlton

Andrea Carlton is a veteran of the U.S. Army, where she served for 12 years before being medically discharged in 2009. Since then, she used her GI Bill educational benefits to attend two for-profit colleges, Brown Mackie and the University of Phoenix, where recruiters made numerous false promises about post-graduation employment rates and assistance. Andrea later enrolled at the University of California Los Angeles through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs vocational rehabilitation program, and was able to secure a position without any help from either for-profit college.

Penny Dryden

Octavia “Penny” Dryden grew up in the small community of Rosegate, along the Route 9 corridor of New Castle, Delaware. Penny is founder and executive director of Community Housing and Empowerment Connections Inc., and has more than 30 years of experience in community advocacy, coalition building and outreach. She is a member of Delaware Concerned Residents for Environmental Justice and most recently co-authored *Environmental Justice for Delaware, Mitigating Toxic Pollution in New Castle County Communities*. Penny received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Economics from Delaware State University. She is married to Kenneth Dryden and has two sons and three grandchildren.

Janet McGee

Janet McGee is a Christian, a wife and a mother. She graduated from the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor’s Degree in Mortuary Science and worked as a licensed mortician throughout most of her 20s. After attaining her MBA, she established herself in the corporate world for almost a decade. When her 22-month-old son, Ted, died tragically in 2016 from a furniture tip-over accident, she left her career behind to advocate for furniture tip-over prevention. She lives in Minnesota with her husband, Jeremy and their children.