

Regs to the Chopping Block

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Donald J. Trump started his presidency with a flurry of activity. One of the things he did was sign an executive order to reduce Americans' regulatory load.

This move may have been the most important initiative the new president advanced. It led to an economic boom that was not all just smoke and mirrors and "stimulus." Real factors were involved in the resulting progress.

Now, however, the economy is in tatters. Massive unemployment, rising real poverty.

But this is not a normal depression. It was the result of the reaction to the coronavirus — largely by the states, but at

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the recommendation of Trump himself, as advised by Dr. Anthony Fauci. Trump now wants what increasing numbers of Americans want: a return to business and normal life. But "re-opening the economy," as



it is called, is not going quickly or smoothly.

On Tuesday Trump signed an executive order to give his Cabinet secretaries broad permission to cut regulations, "instructing federal agencies to use any and all authority to waive, suspend and eliminate unnecessary regulations that impede economic recovery."

"And we want to leave it that way."

Which is the most promising part of this.

"Mr. Trump has made nixing regulations," explains John T. Bennett in *The Independent*, "especially ones put in place by the Obama administration, a top priority during his over three years in office."

We could call the nixing of the lockdown orders themselves a "freeing up" of the economy. To help ease over all the damage, also "freeing up" business from regulatory kludge could not hurt.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.