# Measuring and Communicating the Value of State Government Relations November 15, 2016



## Our Agenda

- Metrics: Establishing a measurement framework
- Ways to prioritize and quantify value of stakeholder relationships
- Measurement tools and strategies
- Benchmarking your program to gain senior leadership support



## Why spend time searching for value?

- Avoid being labeled a 'cost center'
- Increase or at least maintain a solid budget
- Stronger voice in the decision-making process
- Get recognition from senior leadership
- Measurement tools can be used to increase efficiency and allocate resources more wisely



# Second only to customers, government is likelier to affect companies' value than any other stakeholder.

-McKinsey Global Survey, 2010



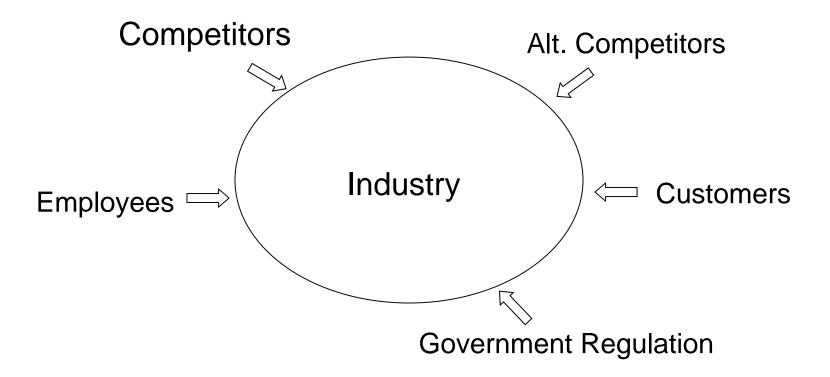
### The Regulatory Challenge

- Total costs for Americans to comply with federal regulations reached \$1.806 trillion in 2012. It is more than the GDPs of Canada or Mexico.
- Last 20 years; 81,883 final federal rules have been issued. That's more than 3,500 per year or about nine per day.
- A <u>new rule every 2 ½ hours</u>.
- Regulatory costs amount to \$14,678 per family 23 percent of the average household income.

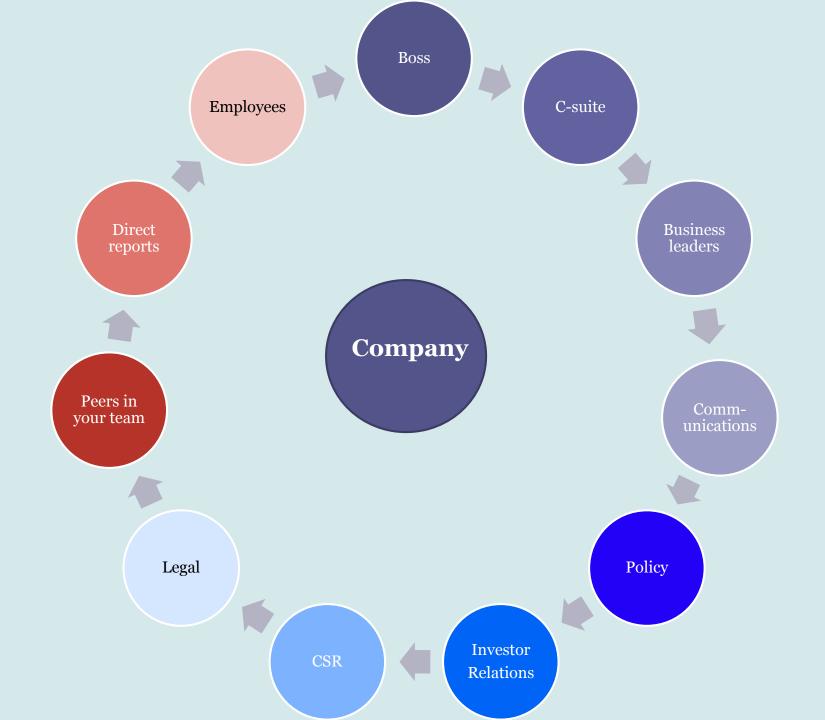
Source: US Chamber



#### The Business Environment







#### The Value-Add for SGR

- Protecting products and services from unwarranted government regulation
- Helping product managers and SBUs during product/service definition.
- Back regulations that provide a competitive advantage.
  - Best Practices
- Guard the commercial viability of the marketplace
  - Strange bedfellows
- Insure that senior management understands the risks and regulatory trends
  - Regulation roadmaps
  - GR Updates
  - Senior management reviews
- Help build a corporate consensus and develop legislative strategies in support of the consensus
- Quantify the GR value-add ROI



## Touch-points for Corporate Government Relations

- Strategic Plan
  - Regulatory Roadmap
- Annual Plan
  - Short term impact
- Business Cases
  - Products and Services
- Reputational Crisis Management
- Investor Relations
- Public Relations



### **Corporate Calculus:**

Government Relations \$\$ < Litigation \$\$\$\$

• Studies validate that Government Relations provides a superior return on investment.



# **Ex:** Setting GR Expectations

- Be first company called
- Lead with integrity, trust and judgment
- Value peers (internal/external) by seeking feedback, coaching and support
- Exhibit innovation by identifying new policy opportunities, anticipating challenges and forecasting solutions
- Follow company compliance both in <u>spirit & letter of law</u>
- Forge strategic relationships
- Advance communication that fosters alignment across enterprise
- Demonstrate business acumen in providing profit protection/generation with outcomes that impact ROI

# "80% of Life Is Showing Up" Woody Allen

### Advocating for your industry/company

- Unintended consequences
- "6000% return for the credit card companies"
- Appreciate your time senator...
- "The \_\_\_\_ State Senate has never been concerned with the constitutionality of anything we have passed?"

## Measurement Tools:

- Internal/external satisfaction surveys
- Reputational polling
- Employee engagement
- Benchmarking
  - Industry, similarly-sized organizations by revenue or employees, leaders in the field, competitors



# Example: Internal Stakeholder Survey

| Quality Indicator   | Importance<br>(1 to 5) | Performance<br>(1 to 5) | Improvement<br>over last year<br>(1 to 5) | Does What<br>Well?                                      | Improve<br>What?                                 |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| Policy Knowledge  | 5                      | 2                       | 4   | Outstanding<br>command of<br>corporate-<br>level issues | Lack of<br>familiarity<br>with state<br>regs     |
| Responsiveness to business needs                          | 3                      | 5                       | 3   | Easily<br>reached via<br>phone,<br>email, Web           | Frequently<br>takes 2<br>days to get<br>response |
| Ability to communicate effectively to business unit heads | 5                      | 5                       | 3   | Professional<br>demeanor                                | Avoid "jargon" when discussing legislation       |



# Focus Should be on Outcomes

| Inputs                            | Outputs            | Outcomes  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---|--|
| 5 newsletters; on time; on budget | Readership         | Impact on behavior;<br>increased understanding of<br>issues |  |
| PA Web page up and current        | Hits               | Change in attitudes and awareness                           |  |
| # events organized                | Attendance         | Enhanced relationships                                      |  |
| # news releases; placed stories   | Coverage, recall   | Changed opinions/ behavior of stakeholders                  |  |
| Develop sustainability report     | Readership; awards | Impact on business behavior; reputation                     |  |
| # meetings with officials         | Responses          | Influence on policy   |  |

- Educate stakeholders constantly
- Relate measures to organizational strategy
- Use quantitative and qualitative terms
- Track performance over time



- Relativity
- •Speak the language of management and other departments – "bottom line impact & ROI"

# Communications Example: Measurement Dashboard

#### Activity Measures

Measures that reflect the central tactical areas of engagement

- Strategic media relations
- Key influencer outreach
- Thought leadership / executive visibility
- Partnerships

# **Environmental Measures**

Quantitative and qualitative measures to evaluate the volume and quality of media coverage and thought leadership

- Media placements
- Coverage tonality
- Coverage of platform themes/messages
- Executive mentions/quotes

#### Perception Measures

Stakeholder research to understand how engagement is shaping opinions

- Third-party reputation rankings and awards
- Proprietary research

#### ROI Measure (Essential)

Estimated revenue gain or protection

 Estimated by reputable thirdparty/ internal stakeholders



# Tips on Communicating Value



- Educate stakeholders constantly
- Relate measures to org. strategy
- Use quantitative and qualitative terms
- Track performance over time
- Relativity (peers, past...)
- Speak the language of management and other dep'ts – "bottom line impact & ROI"

Overshare updates and successes so that you become part of your organization's fabric.



# Evaluating Contract Lobbyists

- 1= Exceeds Expectation
- 2= Meets
- 3= Did not meet
- Legislative/Regulatory Outcome
- Amount of time spent lobbying
- Level of importance placed on your issues
- Quality/accuracy of work
- Uniqueness of information
- Time management
- Responsiveness/ communication/ availability
- Skills, knowledge, contacts, reputation



# How to spread the word?

- Short **articles** highlighting leg/reg successes
- Updates at every major org-wide meeting
- **Photos** from facility visits, grassroots events, exec. lobbying, delivering testimony, townhalls
- Video highlighting success and impact
- Quarterly Reports





- Don't view measurement as the end
- Keep the conversations going
- Learn from employees and members how SGR can keep improving
- Focus on outcomes, not output
- Get your voice heard, and remind people you're not a cost center!



# **Questions?**

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