



# ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

Fact Sheet  
www.acus.gov

## What We Do

The Administrative Conference of the United States is a unique executive branch agency whose principal mission is to recommend improvements to administrative procedure and process to the President, federal agencies, Congress, and the federal judiciary. Numerous Conference recommendations have been adopted by the executive branch or enacted into law. Others have been cited by the federal courts, including more than a dozen times by the Supreme Court. The Conference also assists individual agencies to improve programs, publishes sourcebooks of enormous value to both the government and public, and provides nonpartisan advice to executive branch officials and members of Congress and their staffs. The Conference's work improves the efficiency and fairness of government processes, which frequently saves taxpayer dollars.

ACUS is one of the federal government's *"best bargains...for the buck."*

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia  
Former ACUS Chairman and Current Senior Fellow

ACUS is *"a unique organization, carrying out work that is important and beneficial to the average American, at low cost."*

Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer  
Former ACUS Liaison Representative and Current Senior Fellow



## Who We Are

The voting members of the Conference, who comprise the Assembly, include the Chairman; the Council; 50 government members from federal executive departments, agencies, and independent regulatory boards and commissions; and 40 public members with diverse views and backgrounds from academia, the practicing bar, industry, and public interest organizations. None of the members, except for the Chairman, are compensated for their services.

The Conference also includes senior fellows (three of whom are Supreme Court Justices), special counsels, and liaison representatives from Congress, the federal judiciary, and other federal agencies.

The Conference is chaired by Paul Verkuil, a well-known public law scholar, and supported by a small, full-time staff.

## How We Work

After a project is approved by the Council, the Conference conducts research and produces a report, either in-house or with the help of an outside expert. One of the Conference's six committees then considers the report and proposed recommendation. After deliberating in meetings open to the public, the committee drafts a recommendation.

The Council then submits the recommendations to the Assembly for consideration at semi-annual plenary sessions. Assembly members debate, offer their own changes, and vote on whether to adopt the recommendations. The recommendations are then publicized and forwarded to the President, federal agencies, Congress, or the judiciary for implementation.



Administrative Conference Research Process

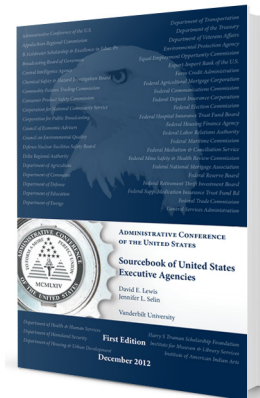
# The Administrative Conference Act

The purposes of the Administrative Conference are:

- (1) to provide suitable arrangements through which Federal agencies, assisted by outside experts, may cooperatively study mutual problems, exchange information, and develop recommendations for action by proper authorities to the end that private rights may be fully protected and regulatory activities and other Federal responsibilities may be carried out expeditiously in the public interest;
- (2) to promote more effective public participation and efficiency in the rulemaking process;
- (3) to reduce unnecessary litigation in the regulatory process;
- (4) to improve the use of science in the regulatory process; and
- (5) to improve the effectiveness of laws applicable to the regulatory process.

The Administrative Conference Act  
5 U.S.C. § 591. Purposes

# Sourcebook of United States Executive Agencies



This ACUS sourcebook examines the agencies and other organizational entities of the federal executive establishment, including independent agencies. It is an especially valuable resource to Congress, the judiciary, individual agencies, the general public, and academic researchers in government and public administration. No other resource of its kind exists. View the entire sourcebook online at [acus.gov/sourcebook](http://acus.gov/sourcebook).



President Lyndon B. Johnson congratulates newly sworn-in ACUS Chairman Jerre Williams at the White House on January 25, 1968.

*LBJ Presidential Library Photo by Yoichi Okamoto.*

## August 30, 1964

President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Administrative Conference Act (Public Law 88-499), which established the Administrative Conference of the United States on a permanent basis.

Predecessors included the "President's Conference on Administrative Procedure" (1953-54), convened by President Eisenhower, and the "Administrative Conference of the United States" (1961-62), established by President Kennedy in Executive Order No. 10,934. Each temporary Conference recommended the creation of a permanent Administrative Conference.



## Links to Learn More

- > [acus.gov/conference](http://acus.gov/conference)
- > [acus.gov/contacts](http://acus.gov/contacts)
- > [acus.gov/publications](http://acus.gov/publications)
- > [acus.gov/recommendations](http://acus.gov/recommendations)
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