# **A**-s

### **U.S. Legislation\* Training Session**

### Alison Pepper EVP, Government Relations & Sustainability, 4A's

\*Legislation, Regulation, And Judicial Proceedings

01/23/24

### **Discussion Topics**

Securities And Exchange Commission Regulations

White House Rules For Federal Contractors

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Federal Trade Commission Green Guides

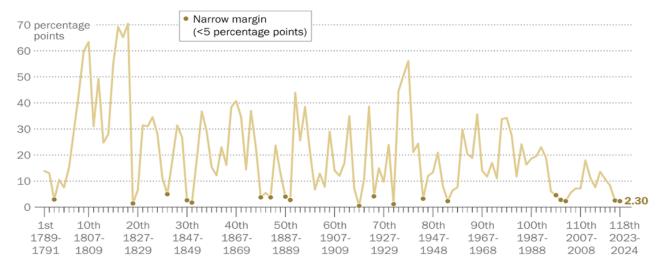
**California Climate Legislation** 

**The End Of Chevron Deference?** 



### Gridlock In Congress – Inflation Reduction Act Is Probably It For Awhile

### Narrow majorities in the U.S. House are nothing new



*Majority party's margin of control (in percentage points)* 

Notes: Party divisions and margins of control are as of the date the House first convened to organize and transact legislative business. In the 65th Congress, the majority consisted of 213 Democrats and four minor-party members. Source: Pew Research Center analysis.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

### **Securities And Exchange Commission**



In March 2022, the SEC proposed requiring publicly listed companies to disclose climate risks, including their Scope 3 emissions when they are "material" and when companies have set reduction targets for them. The agency said such information is important for investors' due diligence.

The SEC received over <u>6,000 comments</u> during the public commentary period.

# White House Rules For Federal Contractors

Federal Contractors		Federal Supplier Climate Risks and Resilience Proposed Rule Requirements		
Segment	Annual Federal Obligations	Scope 1, Scope 2, and relevant categories of Scope 3 emissions in alignment with the GHG Protocol Corporate Standard	Climate Risks assessed in alignment with the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)	Emissions reduction target validated by the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi)
Major Contractors	>\$50M	Yes (through CDP)	Yes (through CDP)	Yes (through SBTi)
Significant Contractors	>\$7.5M-\$50M	Yes (Scope 1 and Scope 2 only)	No	No
Other Contractors	<\$7.5M	No	No	No

## **Federal Trade Commission Green Guides**



Submitted via Regulations.gov

April 24, 2023

Federal Trade Commission Office of the Secretary 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite CC - 5610 (Annex J) Washington, DC 20580

### RE: Green Guides Review, Matter No. P954501

The American Association of Advertising Agencies ("the 4A's") is pleased to provide feedback on proposed revisions to the Federal Trade Commission Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims (Creen Guides").

### I. Our Industry And Who We Are

The 4A's was established in 1917 to promote and advance the interests of our member agencies and the advertising and marketing industries overall. Today, the organization serves more than 500 member agencies across 1,200 offices, which help direct more than 85% of total U.S. advertising spend. Advertising is a significant contributor to the U.S. economy.

By providing consumers with information on products and services, advertising fuels economic growth through its ability to support competitiveness. 2021 research from the IH5 Markit found that advertising contributed 57.1 trillion in business sales activity and supported 28.5 million U.S. jobs in 2020. Advertising and its multiplier effects represent 18.5 percent of U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) and nearly one-fifth of all American jobs in 2020. Furthermore, every dollar of ad spending supported nearly 521 of sales, on sverage<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>1 IHS Markit, 2021, The Economic Impact of Advertising on the US Economy 2018 2028, http://abs/36334-mystare.point.com/byn/personaliamelender\_capitolicounsel\_com/EVGUvewoC1dGs82STvd3e2v8\_MpWDU\_ Mh/351+vd52w4=72HRK2.

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### **Highlights Of Comments**

- Carbon Offsets
- Energy Use/Energy Efficiency
- Sustainable
- Overlap/Conflict Of Laws

The Green Guides are **<u>Guides</u>** and not **<u>Rules</u>** – an important distinction.



## **California Climate Legislation**

	SB 253	SB 261	
Name	Climate Corporate Data Accountability Act	Climate-Related Financial Risk Act	
Purpose	Requires large businesses to disclose their greenhouse gas emissions	Requires large businesses to disclose their climate-related financial risks	
Affected Companies	All public and private companies with over \$1 billion in global revenue that do business in California	All public and private companies with over \$500 million in global revenue that do business in California	
Disclosure Requirements	Scope 1, 2, and 3 greenhouse gas emissions, audited by a third party	Material climate-related financial risks and the actions the company is taking to reduce and adapt to them	
Compliance deadlines	Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2026, Scope 3 emissions by 2027.	Financial risk disclosures by 2025.	
Enforcement	The California Air Resources Board (CARB) may impose civil penalties for violations of the law	CARB may impose civil penalties for violations of the law	
Penalties for violations	Up to \$500,000 per violation	Up to \$25,000 per violation	

Source: Archer Integrated Risk Management

### **The End Of Chevron Deference?**

The end of the Chevron deference will make it much harder for federal regulatory agencies to enact ambitious climate regulations without risking losing court challenges.

Much legislation in Congress is drafted with ambiguity – both intentionally and unintentionally. The lack of deference to subject matter experts at the federal regulatory agencies will make it difficult for agencies to enact new regulations not explicitly cited in legislation.



The Supreme Court's interpretation of the precedent set by the Chevron deference could have major impacts on federal agencies' role in regulatory disputes. PHIL ROEDER / GETTY IMAGES

### Management

### Supreme Court appears ready to end deference to federal agency expertise

The conservative majority is skeptical of a longstanding precedent that gives agencies latitude in setting regulations, and legal experts say it will take "miracle" to save it.

JANUARY 17, 2024

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# QUESTIONS

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