The Washington Post recently reported that on his way out President Bush is pushing for a wave of deregulation regarding consumer protection and the environment that would be difficult for his successor to undo. For instance, Bush wants to clear some hurdles to commercial ocean-fishing and estab... *The Washington Post recently reported that on his way out President Bush is pushing for a wave of deregulation regarding consumer protection and the environment that would be difficult for his successor to undo. For instance, Bush wants to clear some hurdles to commercial ocean-fishing and establish new rules controlling employees who take family- and medical-related leaves. Do you think this is fair, or should Bush leave things as they are for the next administration?*

It has become common practice for presidents, and governors of California as well, to make last-minute regulatory changes and appointments before they leave office. It is particularly common if the office is changing parties as a result of the election. President Clinton did it, as have other presidents and governors in recent years. Whereas it may seem inappropriate, we elect presidents for a specified term and should not expect them to stop doing what they believe is right prior to the official end of that term.

Rep. John Campbell