Cost-benefit analysis would allow Congress, the press, and the public to learn how cost-effective a given regulation is. We would be able to see how much value we are getting back when we give something up pursuant to regulation. Cost-benefit analyses of different regulations would be published and we would see what regulations bring large improvements and what regulations bring small improvements to American life. We include in our bill a requirement that agencies analyze a wide variety of regulatory alternatives. Doing so will reveal what the incremental costs and benefits are and they will see a range of options. This will help agencies choose the right place to draw the line — the place where we get the most benefits for the least cost.

Risk assessment is a characterization of the nature of the harm addressed by a regulation, and our bill requires it for regulations addressing health, safety, and the environment. Rather than anecdotes and fear, we need sound scientific descriptions of what causes a given harm, how the harm is caused, and what the chances are that a harm will occur. We also need to reveal what assumptions these assessments rely on. Certain harms are extremely rare, and even speculative, yet sometimes we protect against them more carefully than the harms that befall hundreds of Americans every day. Quality risk assessment will reveal if this has been the case, we can refocus our efforts on real improvements in quality of life for all Americans.

A substitution risk assessment should study what risks might be created or threatened in the process of avoiding another risk. Substitution risk assessment is the reason most people do not jump into automobile traffic to avoid meeting a bicycle on the sidewalk. The risk this would create is greater than the risk avoided. I do not suggest that any current regulations actually create net risks, but there have been examples where a significant new harm was created by a regulation. We want to avoid this in the future, for the good of our people and for the credibility of the regulatory process.

Let me make some key points about this bill, though I recognize that mine will not be the only view on these subjects. First, to do an effective cost-benefit analysis, all effects of a regulation must be quantified in comparable terms. We must be able to compare apples to apples and oranges to oranges. Otherwise, we will not be able to make a meaningful comparison of the costs and benefits of a regulation. We must be able to compare apples to apples.

In our bill, we require that an agency use a cost-benefit analysis when an agency is reviewing a proposed regulation. We require that the agency use a cost-benefit analysis when an agency is reviewing a proposed regulation. We require that the agency use a cost-benefit analysis when an agency is reviewing a proposed regulation.

TANNER PRAISES DR. JOHNS’ COMMITMENT AS CARROLL COUNTY CIVIC LEADER

HON. JOHN S. TANNER
OF TENNESSEE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, it is a personal privilege to rise and to have the opportunity to speak on the pages of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, an article about my good friend, Dr. Howard Johns of Huntingdon, Tennessee. The article adequately describes Dr. Johns’ many sterling qualities, as well as his dedicated and distinguished service to Carroll County.

I would be remiss not to add that my late father-in-law, Mr. Billy Portis, and Dr. Johns attended many of our family functions, and, in fact, he has been almost like a member of our family.

So it is with pride and pleasure that I include a profile article about Dr. Johns that was published recently in The McKenzie Banner and reprinted below. Dr. Johns is a distinguished Tennessean and I am proud to call him my friend.

[From the McKenzie Banner, Oct. 20, 1999]

Dr. Howard Johns—Retired Veterinarian, Active Civic Leader
(By Deborah Turner)

Summers spent in rural Georgia on his grandfather’s farm among the favorite memories of Dr. Howard Johns, retired doctor of veterinary medicine in Huntingdon. Nestled in a tiny town consisting of two stores and a service station, his grandfather owned a racehorse farm, and Howard got to help with the animals while visiting from his hometown of Eatontown, Georgia.

He enjoys feeding the animals, watching them run, walking and brushing the beautiful, spirited horses which were trained to pull the two-wheeled carriages, called sulks, in which one man rode to drive and one to walk alongside.

He was the middle child of five children: 2 older brothers and a younger brother and sister. His brothers accompanied him in his visits to the farm, where cows, mules and other animals were raised as well as racehorses. Together, the boys got into plenty of mischief during the visits to the farm. Howard enjoyed most was riding out with his grandfather on visits to other farms. His grandfather was a “quack veterinarian,” doing many things that today would be considered unorthodox by the veterinarian in his community. It was because of his grandfather’s influence that Dr. Johns decided, “I’m going to be a graduate veterinary student.”

World War II intervened when, at age 20, Dr. Johns joined the Air Force as a mess sergeant serving in the Pacific theater and then in New Guinea with rotation to Australia. Finally able to make his dreams come true at the end of his tour of duty, there were only six schools in the nation teaching veterinary science. Sixty slots were available at Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn; Dr. Johns was chosen from 1500 applicants and began his studies.

Unfortunately, his grandfather did not live to see him become a graduate veterinarian, passing away after Dr. Johns completed pre-veterinary school.

In 1949, as a licensed veterinarian, Dr. Johns came to Tennessee to practice. An avid duck hunter, he insisted on “dishing for ducks,” said he, and found them. He dated Judith McConnell for a year and a half before tying the knot in marriage. Over the years, the couple had two more daughters, Kathy and Johnny Beth. Their son, Howard Jr., affectionately known as Bubba, was tragically lost at the age of eight when he slipped on some hay, falling from a truck as it rounded a curve.

Upon arriving in Carroll County, Dr. Johns set up his clinic in a room at the Carroll County Co-op building, a tenant for a year and a half. Although there were several persons practicing as unlicensed vets, Dr. Johns brought a learned element as the only educated veterinarian in the area. Through the Co-op, Dr. Johns met many farmers and built his practice. He moved into a new clinic on Main Street, where the shop, “Snip’s Nip,” was now housed. There he was able to establish an animal hospital, where around the clock medical care could be provided. As time went on, Dr. Johns saw the growing demand for veterinary medicine. When he first began his practice, he saw more large farm animals than small animals. Later, people began taking better care of their pets, and didn’t mind spending a little money to keep them healthy. Another change was drive-in service, when farmers and large animal owners brought their pets, and horses to the clinic in trailers for treatment.

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Before the advent of life saving drugs, “We treated symptoms, that’s all we could do with the drugs we had,” said Dr. Johns. Common in those days were outbreaks of “black leg”, caused from a bacteria that enters the muscles where gasses form, capable of killing a calf within two days. The bacteria is found in the soil, and once there it remains, although the advent of vaccinations now prevents recurring outbreaks. Another common infection in cows is mastitis, an infection caused by fungus growing on the grasses. When eaten, the mouth becomes infected, rendering the animal unable to digest food and become extremely ill. Many of the advancements made in veterinary medicine are the result of research. Dr.