



Legal and Ethical Issues

Government and Laws

What You'll Learn

- The roles government plays in our free enterprise system
- Identify federal regulatory agencies and laws that protect consumers, workers, investors, and the environment
- About the impact of government on business

The Role of Government

- Provider of Services – military, police, fire, education, transportation, etc.
 - Department of Homeland Security
 - Disaster recovery



The Role of Government

- As a founder of public libraries, the government is acting as a provider of services.
- Do you recognize this library?



The Role of Government

- **Regulator** -- laws to protect safety, health, and welfare of individuals



Protecting Consumers

- Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
 - Regulates the labeling and safety of food, drugs, and cosmetics
- Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
 - Responsible for overseeing the safety of products such as toys, electronics, and household furniture.



Protecting Workers

- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)
 - Responsible for the fair and equitable treatment of employees with regard to hiring, firing and promotions.
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
 - Provides guidelines for workplace safety and enforces those regulations.



Protecting Investors

- Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)
 - Regulates the sale of securities (stocks and bonds).
 - Is responsible for licensing brokerage firms and financial advisors.



Protecting the Environment

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 - Protects human health and our environment
 - Monitors and reduces air and water pollution
 - Oversees hazardous waste disposal and recycling



Enforcer of the Free Enterprise System

- Federal Trade Commission (FTC) – has the responsibility of enforcing the principles of a free enterprise system and protecting consumers from unfair or deceptive business practices.
 - Bureau of Consumer Protection
 - Bureau of Competition
 - Bureau of Economics



The Role of Government

- Monitor of Our Economy
 - To ensure economic stability
 - Government monitors our economy and controls our monetary supply through the Federal Reserve System (our nation's bank)



The Role of Government

- Supporter of Businesses –
SBA, trade alliances



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visit their web site to learn
about some of their services.**