

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| <b>Acknowledgments</b>                                  | <b>vii</b>  |
| <b>Preface</b>  | <b>viii</b> |
| <b>Overview</b>   | <b>xi</b>   |
| <b>1 Building New Indicators of Business Regulation</b> | <b>1</b>    |
| Doing Business Methodology                              | 2           |
| Other Indicators in a Crowded Field                     | 7           |
| Notes   | 15          |
| <b>2 Starting a Business</b>                            | <b>17</b>   |
| How Easy Is Business Entry?                             | 18          |
| Are Entry Regulations Good? Some, Yes—Many, No          | 22          |
| What to Reform?   | 24          |
| Notes   | 27          |
| <b>3 Hiring and Firing Workers</b>                      | <b>29</b>   |
| What Is Employment Regulation?                          | 30          |
| Large Divergences in Practice                           | 33          |
| What Are the Effects of Employment Regulation?          | 35          |
| What to Reform?   | 37          |
| Notes   | 38          |
| <b>4 Enforcing Contracts</b>                            | <b>41</b>   |
| Which Courts Are Socially Desirable?                    | 46          |
| What Explains Differences in Court Efficiency?          | 48          |
| What to Reform?   | 49          |
| Notes   | 53          |
| <b>5 Getting Credit</b>                                 | <b>55</b>   |
| Sharing Credit Information                              | 56          |
| Legal Rights of Creditors                               | 61          |
| Explaining Patterns in Creditor Protections             | 64          |
| What Is the Impact on Credit Markets?                   | 65          |
| What to Reform?   | 66          |
| Notes   | 69          |
| <b>6 Closing a Business</b>                             | <b>71</b>   |
| What Are the Goals of Bankruptcy?                       | 72          |
| Effects of Good Bankruptcy Laws                         | 78          |
| What to Reform?   | 79          |
| Notes   | 82          |

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>7 The Practice of Regulation</b>                        | <b>83</b>  |
| Regulation Varies Widely around the World                  | 83         |
| Heavier Regulation Brings Bad Outcomes                     | 87         |
| Rich Countries Regulate Business in a<br>Consistent Manner | 88         |
| What Do These Findings Mean for Economic Theory?           | 90         |
| Principles of Good Regulation                              | 92         |
| Notes  | 95         |
| <b>References</b>  | <b>97</b>  |
| <b>Data Notes</b>  | <b>105</b> |
| <b>Doing Business Indicators</b>                           | <b>115</b> |
| <b>Country Tables</b>                                      | <b>133</b> |
| <b>List of Contributors</b>                                | <b>179</b> |