February 4, 2018 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

## Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about government workers. The US government is a very large bureaucracy which has flaws but does things very well with many of the worlds best scientists work for NOAA and the EPA, the best doctors for the VA, the best diplomats for the State Department and the best investigators for the FBI. This success has been a long process, resulting from both interesting work and insulation of the professional staff from political winds in Washington. Over the past year all of these agencies have seen senior people leaving who blame a newly politicized environment. A few months ago job security at the VA was weakened and it is not yet clear what effect this is having. Maybe things are improving by removing the weakest links or maybe things are worse with political dissent leading to quick dismissal. It is too early to push these rules into other agencies.

Please assure me that you will respect federal workers.

I am very proud to be a US citizen and a large part of that derives from our respected federal government.

Sincerely, Eric Babson