

June 9, 2025
Eric Babson
babson@math.ucdavis.edu
1094 Cragmont Avenue
Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Governor Newsom:

I am concerned about federal funding.

The federal assault on California this week has been both bizarre and frightening. First there was the leaked plan to cut funding for Medi-Cal and the UC and then the California Guard was nationalized for a cosplay video opportunity in LA. Your response to the former has been heartening with the reminder of the extent to which we subsidize the rest of the country and hints that you may end this thankless largess. The federal model has worked well at times but a move to pull the state out seems opportune. The ensuing threats from Secretary Bessent suggest you may have hit a nerve. With the sadistic racism of both ICE and the dismantling of USAID it is clear that California could spend my taxes better.

Please assure me that you will strongly consider withholding our taxes.
My pride in California derives in part from our budget priorities.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson