August 31, 2017 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned by irrational tax policy. Many in congress and your administration are now talking about tax reform. It seems reasonable to occasionally tidy up the tax code. I worry that the intent of many- possibly most- in government is instead to hand large financial gifts to some of their friends and contributors at the expense of the economy and society in general, with the resulting high deficits being used to excuse cutting services and maintenance. Your speech this week appeared to endorse this approach with huge cuts to corporate tax levels, although a look at the large corporations which currently pay low taxes reveals companies which are reducing employment in favor of greater compensation for stock holders, a group which would also be paying lower personal income taxes. The most obvious recent parallel is the disaster in Kansas. Congress has also signaled a preference for this irresponsible approach. A month ago such a tax reduction scheme was rammed through the house, and nearly through the senate as well in the guise of health care reform.

Please assure me that you will only sign a new tax policy which is at least revenue neutral and progressive.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our strong economy.

Sincerely, Eric Babson