

March 2, 2018  
Eric Babson  
babson@math.ucdavis.edu  
1094 Cragmont Avenue  
Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about tariffs. You have been working in various ways to reduce trade between the US and the rest of the world. This has included scrapping, threatening and opening for renegotiation various trade agreements, a recent shift in tariffs on solar panels and now a threat to impose broad taxes on foreign steel and aluminum. Manufacturing these days is quite international, due partly to transportation costs and partly to trade agreements. By isolating US markets you will reduce the manufacturing which involves the US along with other countries. While some protection of industries can help get something new going those you are protecting are long established. This move has the appearance of being rash with little analysis of the broad likely effects. It is clear that a small number of companies stand to make a huge profit though and this raises the specter of graft.

*Please assure me that you will encourage international trade.*

I am very proud to be a US citizen and a large part of that derives from our economic success.

Sincerely,  
Eric Babson