July 29, 2018 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about political patronage. The mangerial error of putting sycophants and cousins in charge during a party change is usually avoided by having career professionals play a significant role in running every agency even when top managers are shifting political appointees. Unfortunately, your administration has been quite unabashed in its patronage, nepotism and sidelining of professionals starting at the top with a cabinet full of sycophants along with two children and your son-in-law as advisers. Many departments are now reported to be ignoring or harassing their professionals while hiring managers notable only for their loyalty and salaries. This includes the State Department under Tillerson, the EPA under Pruitt and the Financial Protection Bureau under Mulvaney not to mention your judicial appointments and of course the PPO itself. I am pleased to see the new VA Secretary moving to once again empower professionals.

Please assure me that you will encourage Secretary Wilkie's prefessional approach in other departments.

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

Sincerely, Eric Babson