December 13, 2018 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

## Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about monopolies. Stock market averages and income averages have both been rising but this appears to be based largely on increases in value of just a few rapidly growing tech companies and increases in income mainly for those with little need for more. One danger of putting all one's eggs in so few baskets became clear recently when those few companies had some bad trading days and months of gains were wiped out overnight. Other dangers of monopolies are familiar from the late 1800's with workers kept poor, prices kept high, innovation kept out of the market and inordinate political power accruing to a very few. Today unions have been largely sidelined with many people working as contractors with little security, drugs are selling at tens of thousands of times their manufacturing costs, the heady days of startups using a neutral internet are gone and superPACs are funneling money to the causes and candidates favored by corporate boards.

Please assure me that you will take on monopolies.

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

Sincerely, Eric Babson