

February 14, 2018
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about Presidential overreach. Your latest wall plan (according to the more reliable word of Senator McConnell) is to declare a fake emergency and test how much of the appropriations authority of congress you can grab. The various statutes granting you emergency powers are designed for responding to emergencies, though their strength is partly due to the 1983 INS vs Chadha decision. It will be interesting to see just how much presidential power is lost as congress and the courts work to explicitly constrain your tantrums. At this point you have managed to unite Democrats and split Republicans leaving open the possibility of overriding a veto and explicitly constraining emergency powers. Some court may also assert the power to review a clearly false declaration. Unfortunately the fallout may well leave the US less able to respond to actual emergencies.

Please assure me that you will rethink things and not cry wolf.

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

Sincerely,
Eric Babson