

February 28, 2020
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Dear Mr Vice President:

I am concerned about coronavirus. This administration cut back the CDC pandemic response system and eliminated the associated czar making clear both a reckless focus on erasing the actions of President Obama and on loyalty over competence. It has also attacked scientific evidence, barring agencies from discussing the growing threat of climate change and even used a sharpie to ludicrously politicize storm forecasting. This makes the appointment of an independent expert to lead the response to coronavirus essential to maintaining public health and avoiding panic. Your prior leadership with public health in Indiana left many dead in a resurgence of HIV after rejecting the well established approach of needle exchange in favor of prayer alone. Your first move yesterday was to copy the failings of President Xi by muzzling those CDC scientists who remain. I worry that many more will die as your religious and political whims supplant our hard earned scientific knowledge. *Please assure me that you will defer to experts in responding to this pandemic.*

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

Sincerely,
Eric Babson