

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON October 31, 2019

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding healthcare policy.

There are significant challenges in healthcare markets, including reduced competition and rising costs that threaten both family and government budgets. Obamacare has complicated these challenges, causing health insurance premiums for individuals and small businesses to increase drastically while choices dwindle. That is why we must make reforms that improve affordability, protect coverage for pre-existing conditions, expand choice, increase access, and encourage quality healthcare and innovation.

My Administration has vastly expanded affordable insurance options, which can be up to 60 percent less expensive than Obamacare plans for many Americans. We have taken this action in order to bring down premiums for consumers and give millions of Americans a broader range of affordable coverage choices and greater control over how to finance their healthcare needs.

In December 2017, I was pleased to repeal the burdensome individual mandate penalty, which fined Americans for not purchasing insurance coverage they did not want or could not afford. My Administration will continue to work with Congress to pass legislation that takes the power over healthcare out of Washington and returns it to the American people. We will ensure that Americans with pre-existing conditions have access to coverage.

We are also working to make our healthcare system fairer. The Food and Drug Administration approved more low-cost generic drugs in my first two years than ever before in the history of our country, resulting in a decline in drug prices for the first time in 50 years. I also signed into law legislation ending the terrible "gag clauses" that prevented pharmacists from telling patients about cheaper options at the pharmacy counter. Additionally, I signed an Executive Order to promote price and quality transparency in American healthcare, and we have sent a list of principles to Congress to guide lawmakers in developing legislation that will limit surprise medical billing.

Further, we are fighting to ensure all Americans have the healthcare they deserve. I signed into law "Right to Try" legislation, giving terminally ill patients expanded access to care and treatment. I also announced a plan to invest \$500 million in pediatric cancer research over 10 years, and I signed an Executive Order that will significantly increase the supply of kidneys available for transplant. Moreover, I signed into law a \$1 billion increase in funding for critical Alzheimer's research, and we have launched a campaign to end the HIV/AIDS crisis in America.

Thank you again for writing. To learn more about my health policies, please visit www.WhiteHouse.gov. As President, I am committed to improving public health and providing Americans with more affordable health insurance, access to more choices, and quality care.

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WASHINGTON

September 6, 2019

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding the opioid crisis.

Opioids are having a devastating impact on public health and safety in communities across our Nation. In 2017, more than 70,000 Americans, or nearly 200 people each day, died from a drug overdose, with the majority of deaths involving an opioid.

In 2017, high-dose opioid prescriptions fell by 16 percent and the number of first-time heroin users ages 12 and older fell by more than 50 percent. To strengthen our response to the opioid crisis, I released my Initiative to Stop Opioid Abuse. This Initiative is designed to reduce the demand for drugs through education, awareness, and preventing over-prescription, while also cutting off the flow of illicit drugs across our borders and into American communities. As part of this Initiative, I am calling for a one-third cut of nationwide opioid prescription fills over the next three years and working to expand access to evidence-based addiction treatment in all 50 States.

My Administration has worked with Congress to secure more than \$6 billion in new funding over two years to help combat the drug abuse and opioid crisis through prevention, treatment and recovery services, interdiction, and law enforcement efforts. Additionally, we have increased funding for opioid and pain research from \$600 million to \$1.1 billion.

I also signed into law the overwhelmingly bipartisan SUPPORT Act, the largest legislative effort in history addressing a single drug crisis. This legislation will expand access to evidence-based treatment, protect our communities from illicit drugs, invest more in sustained recovery, bring those in treatment and recovery back into the workforce, and raise public awareness of the dangers of illicitly imported synthetic opioids. It will also support the most vulnerable victims of the opioid crisis by allowing State Medicaid programs to cover healthcare services for infants suffering from neonatal abstinence syndrome in pediatric recovery centers.

To help reduce the supply of illicit drugs in our country, the Department of Justice (DOJ) has started to expand its Opioid Fraud and Abuse Detection Unit's efforts to prosecute corrupt or criminally negligent doctors, pharmacies, and distributors. Additionally, the DOJ will now seek the death penalty against drug traffickers where appropriate under current law. Further, I have called on Congress to pass legislation that reduces the threshold amount of drugs needed to invoke mandatory minimum sentences for drug traffickers who knowingly distribute illicit opioids lethal in trace amounts. To stop the flood of fentanyl at its source in China, I secured agreement from President Xi of China to tighten controls on production of this poison.

Thank you again for writing. To learn more about my Administration's plan to stop opioid abuse, please visit www.WhiteHouse.gov. If you or a loved one has been affected by the opioid crisis, please visit www.CrisisNextDoor.gov to share your story. As President, I am committed to continuing to fight the opioid crisis, and I am confident that together we can, and will, win this battle.

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WASHINGTON

August 14, 2019

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding Federal spending and my fiscal year (FY) 2020 budget proposal.

With our national debt reaching a record high of \$22 trillion and growing rapidly, our country's current fiscal path is unsustainable. My 2020 budget provides a clear roadmap for Congress to bring Federal spending and debt under control. We owe it to future generations to stop wasteful spending, get our national debt under control, and focus the Federal Government on what matters most—protecting the Nation. In order to defend our country and assure the sustainability of programs that the American people rely on, we must make these difficult decisions.

A fundamental responsibility of the Federal Government is to protect the homeland. For this reason, my budget makes a border wall a national priority by requesting \$8.6 billion for its construction. As we continue to address the crisis at our Southern border, we must ensure a barrier is built to prevent drugs, terrorism, and crime from entering the United States. My budget also requests \$750 billion for our national defense, a 5 percent increase over the 2019 level. This funding supports the National Security Strategy and National Defense Strategy, building on the major gains we have already made throughout the world.

For decades, American workers have paid into programs, such as Medicare, with the expectation that they will receive their benefits once retired. I am committed to ensuring that the Federal Government honors the deal made with American workers. For this reason, my budget proposes steps to strengthen and protect programs for our seniors.

My budget also focuses on helping working families find a path to a better future by supporting their efforts to balance work and family responsibilities. It proposes a one-time mandatory investment of \$1 billion for States to build the supply of care and stimulate employer investments in child care for working families. Additionally, my budget includes a proposal to provide paid family leave to new parents, including adoptive parents, so that all families can take time to recover from childbirth and bond with a new child.

Thank you again for writing. To learn more about my budget plan, please visit <u>www.WhiteHouse.gov</u>. As President, I am committed to ensuring financial responsibility while prioritizing the safety, security, and prosperity of our country.

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July 30, 2019

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding net neutrality.

My Administration is committed to a free and open internet. Before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) put in place heavy-handed utility-style regulations in 2015, a light-touch regulatory framework had fostered rapid internet growth, openness, and freedom for nearly 20 years. The 2015 regulations were unnecessarily burdensome and discouraged further investment and innovation in the internet.

On December 14, 2017, the FCC voted to restore the light-touch regulatory framework for the internet, which will promote better digital options for every American. Importantly, these rules continue to prevent harms from content blocking and guarantee a free and open internet.

Thank you again for writing. To learn more about the FCC's vote to restore the longstanding light-touch regulatory framework for the internet, please visit <u>www.FCC.gov</u>. As President, I am committed to ensuring that the internet continues to grow and remains an effective tool for all Americans.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON June 13, 2019

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding our Second Amendment rights.

My Administration is committed to upholding the Second Amendment and defending the right of our free and sovereign people to keep and bear arms. Our Founders fully understood that the ability of law-abiding citizens to defend themselves, their families, and their property from harm is a hallmark of a free people.

Over the eight years before I took office, the Second Amendment was under continuous attack from policies that made it difficult or impossible for law-abiding citizens to purchase firearms. I have already begun to reverse this dangerous trend, and I continue to work to ensure that your Government is abiding by the Second Amendment and does not infringe on your rights.

We took first steps to restore the Second Amendment in February of 2017 when I signed legislation nullifying an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rule that would have allowed the IRS to conduct mental health investigations of Social Security recipients and turn their names over to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.

In addition to administrative steps, I look forward to working with Congress to pass laws that will protect the Second Amendment from Federal overreach in the future. These laws will hopefully serve to further protect this key constitutional right.

Thank you again for writing. As President, I am steadfastly committed to protecting your rights and the security of our Nation.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON June 13, 2019

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to share your views regarding race relations in our country.

America is a beacon of freedom, hope, and opportunity to the world, and there is no room for racism or racially motivated violence in our wonderful country.

We are a Nation founded on the undeniable truth that all of us are created equal. We are equal in the eyes of our Creator. We are equal under the law. And we are equal under our Constitution. No matter the color of our skin, we all live under the same laws, salute the same great American Flag, and are made in the image of the same Almighty God.

Racism is evil. And those who cause violence in its name are criminals and thugs, including the KKK, neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and other hate groups that are repugnant to everything we hold dear as Americans.

We must love each other, show affection for each other, and unite together in condemnation of hatred, bigotry, and violence. As one people, let us move forward to rediscover the bonds of love and loyalty that bring us together as Americans, and as people who share a common humanity.

Each of us has the power to bring about positive changes in our communities, and I challenge and encourage you to continue using your voice and your spirit to spread love and kindness to all whom you encounter.

As your President, I will work tirelessly to ensure that all Americans live in a country where their children can flourish, where they feel safe, and where their opportunities are limitless. Thank you again for writing and taking an interest in our country's future.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON June 12, 2019

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to write to me about draining the swamp in Washington. For far too long, the political class in our Nation's capital has tended to special interests, while ignoring the struggles faced by hardworking Americans.

I am committed to returning the power to the people, where it belongs, and to draining the swamp. Shortly after taking office, I signed an Executive Order banning employees of my Administration from lobbying their former agency colleagues for five years after leaving their position. My order also prohibits these employees from ever lobbying the United States on behalf of a foreign government. Public servants must be focused on serving the American people, not on how they can use their position to benefit themselves in the future.

Additionally, I signed important legislation making it easier for the Department of Veterans Affairs to fire bad employees. For too long, Federal workers who fail the American people have been able to continue to collect taxpayer-funded paychecks. That is changing on my watch.

My Administration is also focused on eliminating existing unnecessary and unduly burdensome regulations that advantage the well-connected, while hurting hardworking American taxpayers. Accordingly, I signed an Executive Order instituting a "one in, two out" policy to require the repeal of at least two existing regulations for each new one that is issued. This important policy change will reduce the size and scope of the regulatory state, and increase freedom and opportunity in America.

Thank you again for writing. As President, I will work to hold the Federal Government accountable and drain the swamp, and I will continue fighting for an agenda that benefits American workers and families rather than special interests.

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THE WHITE HOUSE washington June 11, 2019

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for your letter regarding human rights around the world.

The United States is a land of freedom and opportunity for all, and shines as a beacon of hope to the world. We cherish our Constitution, and the rule of law, which generations of Americans have fought and died to defend. As a Nation, we believe that every human life has dignity. We continue to hope that, one day, oppressed and persecuted people around the world will enjoy the same universal human rights that we celebrate here at home.

We promote democratic institutions that respect human rights around the world because we know they enhance stability and security, and better harness the full capacity of their citizens. Unfortunately, around the world, people are enduring unjust imprisonment, religious persecution, and other civil rights abuses. We stand-as we have always stood-with the victims of authoritarian abuses, terrorism, and genocide. We are allied with those who fight for liberty, justice, and the rule of law.

Americans do not seek to impose our way of life on anyone, but rather to hold it up as an example for everyone to see. We continue to make clear that oppressive and radical regimes should empower their people and respect the fundamental rights to life and to liberty. The world will be better for it.

Thank you again for writing. As President, I am committed to the advancement of freedom around the world, and will work to oppose the forces of repression and radicalism.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON June 11, 2019

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for sharing your views on energy and environmental policy.

My Administration is strongly committed to environmental protection, including keeping our air and water clean and being good stewards of our environment. This requires all of us to do our part, and I want to thank you for your commitment to preserving our environment for future generations.

As we continue to protect our environment, we must also ensure that American workers have greater opportunities to provide for their families. That is why my Administration is also committed to protecting American workers and American companies from unnecessary regulatory burdens. Going forward, regulations must balance our stewardship of the environment with the needs of a growing economy.

Thank you again for sharing your views. As President, I am committed to unleashing America's economic potential, while also protecting the environment. I am confident that together we can preserve America's natural blessings for future generations.

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WASHINGTON

June 4, 2019

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding immigration policy.

My first duty as President is to keep the American people safe, and that obligation guides my approach to immigration and border security.

Immigration to the United States is a privilege, not a right. The Federal Government has the responsibility to enforce all laws passed by Congress, to rigorously vet and screen all foreign nationals seeking entry into the United States, and to keep drugs, criminals, and terrorists from entering our country and threatening our citizens.

Additionally, we must have responsible controls on the future entry of foreign workers to protect jobs and wages for existing United States workers of all backgrounds. I have issued an Executive Order to help accomplish this goal, as I promised during the campaign.

Further, we achieved a record reduction in illegal immigration on the southern border, an effort that requires constant vigilance against a wide array of threats and challenges. We are also taking action to confront unlawful sanctuary city jurisdictions that dangerously shield criminal aliens. Moreover, I continue to press Congress to end the visa lottery and extended-family chain migration, to provide a permanent solution for the status of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients, and to move toward a merit-based immigration system. Crucial planning and preparations are underway for the border wall, which is necessary to stop the trafficking of drugs, guns, weapons, and people.

If we continue to enforce our laws and protect our communities, families, and struggling workers, we will reduce our deficit, increase incomes, and make our communities safer for each and every American—both now and in the future.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON September 26, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding foreign policy and our national security.

My Administration is devoted to protecting the American homeland and the American people, promoting American prosperity, preserving peace through strength, and advancing American influence. My National Security Strategy (NSS) describes how my Administration will protect and advance these four core national interests. It is based on a clear-eyed assessment of our interests and a determination to tackle the challenges we face. It acknowledges that there are military, economic, and political competitions in which we must engage to protect American interests and values. My Administration has the confidence to compete.

We are committed to protecting the homeland, the American people, and the American way of life. The Government has a fundamental responsibility to keep Americans safe and to strengthen our sovereignty. A central principle of my national security policy is asserting control over our Nation's borders. My Administration will enhance border security and vetting, and improve transportation security. The United States has a sovereign right to determine who enters our country and under what circumstances. A priority action in the NSS is securing our southern border through the construction of a border wall. In addition, to protect Americans from threats emanating from outside our borders, we will deploy a layered missile defense system to defend our homeland against missile attacks from states such as North Korea and Iran.

Economic security is national security. A strong economy protects the American people and sustains American power. We will rejuvenate the American economy for the benefit of American workers and companies. We will insist on fair and reciprocal economic relationships to address trade imbalances. We are committed to preserving our leadership in research and technology and to protecting our economy from competitors who unfairly acquire our intellectual property. And we will embrace America's energy dominance, because unleashing abundant energy resources stimulates our economy.

Another central principle of my national security policy is achieving peace through strength. While I am committed to seeking diplomatic solutions to our critical international challenges, we must grow and modernize our military forces including space and cyber capabilities—to ensure our military power is second to none. Despite the tremendous gains our military has made against ISIS and al-Qa'ida in Syria and Iraq, jihadist terrorist organizations continue to present a dangerous threat to America. Working with partner nations is essential to meeting these challenges, as is ensuring that our allies are contributing their fair share to our mutual defense and to the defeat of foreign terrorist threats.

America has been among the greatest forces for good in the world. My foreign policy celebrates America's influence in the world as a positive force that can help set the conditions for peace and prosperity. We will continue to champion American values and offer encouragement to those struggling for human dignity in their societies.

Thank you again for writing. To learn more about how the NSS will bolster our Nation's foreign policy and improve our military readiness, please visit www.WhiteHouse.gov. As President, I am committed to strengthening our Nation and protecting the American people.

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September 26, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding immigration policy.

My first duty as President is to keep the American people safe, and that obligation guides my approach to immigration and border security.

Immigration to the United States is a privilege, not a right. The Federal Government has the responsibility to enforce all laws passed by Congress, to rigorously vet and screen all foreign nationals seeking entry into the United States, and to keep drugs, criminals, and terrorists from entering our country and threatening our citizens.

Additionally, we must have responsible controls on the future entry of foreign workers to protect jobs and wages for existing United States workers of all backgrounds. I have issued an Executive Order to help accomplish this goal, as I promised during the campaign.

Further, we achieved a record reduction in illegal immigration on the southern border, an effort that requires constant vigilance against a wide array of threats and challenges. We are also taking action to confront unlawful sanctuary city jurisdictions that dangerously shield criminal aliens. Moreover, I continue to press Congress to end the visa lottery and extended-family chain migration, to provide a permanent solution for the status of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients, and to move toward a merit-based immigration system. Crucially, we have begun planning and preparations for the border wall, which we need to stop the trafficking of drugs, guns, weapons, and people.

If we continue to enforce our laws and protect our communities, families, and struggling workers, we will reduce our deficit, increase incomes, and make our communities safer for each and every American—both now and in the future.

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September 26, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for sharing your views on energy and environmental policy.

My Administration is strongly committed to environmental protection, including keeping our air and water clean and being good stewards of our environment. This requires all of us to do our part, and I want to thank you for your commitment to preserving our environment for future generations.

As we continue to protect our environment, we must also ensure that American workers have greater opportunities to provide for their families. That is why my Administration is also committed to protecting American workers and American companies from unnecessary regulatory burdens. Going forward, regulations must balance our stewardship of the environment with the needs of a growing economy.

Thank you again for sharing your views. As President, I am committed to unleashing America's economic potential, while also protecting the environment. I am confident that together we can preserve America's natural blessings for future generations.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON September 4, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to share your views regarding school and community safety.

No one should ever feel unsafe in our Nation's schools. Following the senseless acts of violence that have occurred, I have brought together students, parents, educators, and legislators to discuss ways to improve safety in our schools and communities. My Administration will continue to enforce Federal law and work with State and local officials to secure our schools, keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and protect Americans from violent criminals.

Additionally, my Administration is tackling the difficult issue of mental health. We must ensure that those individuals living with mental illness have access to evidence-based treatment and services, and we must fight the stigma associated with mental illness, which often prevents those who are suffering from seeking care. For this reason, my fiscal year 2019 budget request to Congress includes new funding to improve access to evidence-based treatment for the seriously mentally ill.

When a horrendous act of violence occurs, it shocks the conscience of our Nation and fills our hearts with immense grief. We will unite together to create a culture in our country that embraces the dignity of life and creates deep and meaningful connections with our classmates, colleagues, and neighbors.

Thank you again for writing. One of my highest priorities as President is the safety of the American people, especially our Nation's young people.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON July 30, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding trade policy.

Open, fair, and competitive markets increase opportunities for American workers and employers and contribute to a higher standard of living. Many Americans, however, have not seen clear benefits from international trade agreements. For too long, other nations have engaged in unfair trade practices, gamed the system, and taken advantage of America. This must stop.

My Administration will modernize and improve existing trade agreements, negotiate new trade deals based on fairness and reciprocity, reform the international trade system, and take strong enforcement actions against trading partners that break the rules.

This work is well underway. We have begun negotiating to modernize the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which was signed before the internet was a part of daily life, and we are seeking substantial improvements to the United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement to give American workers a fairer deal.

My Administration is using available leverage to ensure that more markets are truly open to American goods and services, and I am prepared to make new bilateral trade agreements with any nation that wants to be our partner and will abide by the principles of fair and reciprocal trade. We are working with like-minded nations to bring much-needed reform to the World Trade Organization, which has not always been fair to American interests.

I will not tolerate unfair trade practices that harm American workers, farmers, ranchers, and businesses. The United States Trade Representative has already initiated an investigation of possible discriminatory trade practices by China, and other enforcement actions are ongoing.

Thank you again for writing. To learn more about what I am doing to ensure that trade deals work for all Americans, please visit www.WhiteHouse.gov. As President, I am committed to expanding trade in a way that is fairer for the United States and leads to a more effective and balanced world trading system.

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July 25, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding policies that will strengthen the American economy.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, which I signed into law on December 22, 2017, is the first overhaul of our country's tax code in more than 30 years and provides \$5.5 trillion in gross tax cuts to fuel our economy. It lowered the corporate tax rate from 35 percent, the highest in the developed world, to 21 percent, placing American businesses on a level playing field. As a result of this historic tax reform, we are already seeing investment and jobs flow back into the United States from overseas. Additionally, more than 400 companies across the country have announced bonuses, wage increases, or increased contributions to employee retirement plans, among other investments in their businesses and workforce.

My Administration is delivering on its promise to cut unnecessary and burdensome regulations that hamper economic growth. I signed an Executive Order instituting a "one in, two out" policy to require the repeal of at least two existing regulations for each new one that is issued. And for fiscal year 2018, Federal agencies have committed to instituting at least three deregulatory actions for every new regulation.

The steps that my Administration has taken to restore our Nation's economy, boost the middle class, and bring back American jobs are working. In 2017, the American economy experienced growth in our Nation's gross domestic product (GDP) of 3 percent in consecutive quarters, and our economy added 2 million jobs, including 200,000 jobs in the manufacturing industry. Moreover, the unemployment rate is at one of its lowest points in 17 years, with African-American and Hispanic unemployment rates at record lows. Together, we are advancing an agenda that benefits all hardworking Americans by putting them first.

Thank you again for writing. To learn more about the steps my Administration is taking to unleash the full potential of our economy, please visit: www.WhiteHouse.gov. As President, I am focused on ushering in a new era of American prosperity.

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WASHINGTON

July 5, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for your letter regarding human rights around the world.

The United States is a land of freedom and opportunity for all, and shines as a beacon of hope to the world. We cherish our Constitution, and the rule of law, which generations of Americans have fought and died to defend. As a Nation, we believe that every human life has dignity. We continue to hope that, one day, oppressed and persecuted people around the world will enjoy the same universal human rights that we celebrate here at home.

We promote democratic institutions that respect human rights around the world because we know they enhance stability and security, and better harness the full capacity of their citizens. Unfortunately, around the world, people are enduring unjust imprisonment, religious persecution, and other civil rights abuses. We stand—as we have always stood—with the victims of authoritarian abuses, terrorism, and genocide. We are allied with those who fight for liberty, justice, and the rule of law.

Americans do not seek to impose our way of life on anyone, but rather to hold it up as an example for everyone to see. We continue to make clear that oppressive and radical regimes should empower their people and respect the fundamental rights to life and to liberty. The world will be better for it.

Thank you again for writing. As President, I am committed to the advancement of freedom around the world, and will work to oppose the forces of repression and radicalism.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON April 30, 2018

Mr. Eric Bobson Berkeley, California

Dear Eric,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding immigration policy.

My first duty as President is to keep the American people safe, and that obligation guides my approach to immigration and border security.

Immigration to the United States is a privilege, not a right. The Federal Government has the responsibility to enforce all laws passed by Congress, to rigorously vet and screen all foreign nationals seeking entry into the United States, and to keep drugs, criminals, and terrorists from entering our country and threatening our citizens.

Additionally, we must have responsible controls on the future entry of foreign workers to protect jobs and wages for existing United States workers of all backgrounds. I have issued an Executive Order to help accomplish this goal, as I promised during the campaign.

Further, we achieved a record reduction in illegal immigration on the southern border, an effort that requires constant vigilance against a wide array of threats and challenges. We are also taking action to confront unlawful sanctuary city jurisdictions that dangerously shield criminal aliens. Moreover, I continue to press Congress to end the visa lottery and extended-family chain migration, to provide a permanent solution for the status of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients, and to move toward a merit-based immigration system. Crucially, we have begun planning and preparations for the border wall, which we need to stop the trafficking of drugs, guns, weapons, and people.

If we continue to enforce our laws and protect our communities, families, and struggling workers, we will reduce our deficit, increase incomes, and make our communities safer for each and every American—both now and in the future.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON March 27, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding immigration policy.

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Immigration to the United States is a privilege, not a right. The Federal Government has the responsibility to enforce all laws passed by Congress, to rigorously vet and screen all foreign nationals seeking entry into the United States, and to keep drugs, criminals, and terrorists from entering our country and threatening our citizens.

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If we continue to enforce our laws and protect our communities, families, and struggling workers, we will reduce our deficit, increase incomes, and make our communities safer for each and every American—both now and in the future.

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THE WHITE HOUSE washington March 27, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding Federal spending and my FY 2019 budget proposal.

With our national debt well above \$20 trillion and growing rapidly, our country's current fiscal path is unsustainable. My budget makes the hard choices needed to stop wasteful spending, lower the national debt, and focus the Federal Government on what matters most—protecting the Nation. In order to defend our country and assure the sustainability of programs that the American people rely on, we must make these tough decisions.

A fundamental responsibility of the Federal Government is to protect the homeland. After years of depletion, I am delivering on my promise to restore our Nation's military and strengthen our national security. My budget increases funding for our Armed Forces to improve our military's readiness and ensure that we are capable of defending our interests at home and advancing our influence abroad. Further, my budget includes funding for a wall on our Southwest border, enhancements to border security technology and equipment, and the hiring of more border and immigration enforcement agents to protect our communities from the flow of illegal drugs and violent crime associated with illegal immigration.

For decades, American workers have paid into programs, such as Social Security and Medicare, with the expectation that they will receive their benefits upon retirement. I am committed to ensuring that the Federal Government honors the deal made with American workers. Moreover, my budget focuses on helping working families find a path toward a better future by supporting their efforts to balance work and family responsibilities, providing opportunities to develop their skills, and reshaping welfare programs to emphasize work for those who are able.

Thank you again for writing. To learn more about my budget plan, please visit www.WhiteHouse.gov/omb/budget. As President, I am committed to ensuring financial responsibility while prioritizing the safety and security of our country.

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THE WHITE HOUSE washington March 27, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding policies that will strengthen the American economy.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, which I signed into law on December 22, 2017, is the first overhaul of our country's tax code in more than 30 years and provides \$5.5 trillion in gross tax cuts to fuel our economy. It lowered the corporate tax rate from 35 percent, the highest in the developed world, to 21 percent, placing American businesses on a level playing field. As a result of this historic tax reform, we are already seeing investment and jobs flow back into the United States from overseas. Additionally, more than 400 companies across the country have announced bonuses, wage increases, or increased contributions to employee retirement plans, among other investments in their businesses and workforce.

My Administration is delivering on its promise to cut unnecessary and burdensome regulations that hamper economic growth. I signed an Executive Order instituting a "one in, two out" policy to require the repeal of at least two existing regulations for each new one that is issued. And for fiscal year 2018, Federal agencies have committed to instituting at least three deregulatory actions for every new regulation.

The steps that my Administration has taken to restore our Nation's economy, boost the middle class, and bring back American jobs are working. In 2017, the American economy experienced growth in our Nation's gross domestic product (GDP) of 3 percent in consecutive quarters, and our economy added 2 million jobs, including 200,000 jobs in the manufacturing industry. Moreover, the unemployment rate is at one of its lowest points in 17 years, with African-American and Hispanic unemployment rates at record lows. Together, we are advancing an agenda that benefits all hardworking Americans by putting them first.

Thank you again for writing. To learn more about the steps my Administration is taking to unleash the full potential of our economy, please visit: www.WhiteHouse.gov. As President, I am focused on ushering in a new era of American prosperity.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON March 27, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding foreign policy and our national security.

My Administration is devoted to protecting the American homeland and the American people, promoting American prosperity, preserving peace through strength, and advancing American influence. My National Security Strategy (NSS) describes how my Administration will protect and advance these four core national interests. It is based on a clear-eyed assessment of our interests and a determination to tackle the challenges we face. It acknowledges that there are military, economic, and political competitions in which we must engage to protect American interests and values. My Administration has the confidence to compete.

We are committed to protecting the homeland, the American people, and the American way of life. The Government has a fundamental responsibility to keep Americans safe and to strengthen our sovereignty. A central principle of my national security policy is asserting control over our Nation's borders. My Administration will enhance border security and vetting, and improve transportation security. The United States has a sovereign right to determine who enters our country and under what circumstances. A priority action in the NSS is securing our southern border through the construction of a border wall. In addition, to protect Americans from threats emanating from outside our borders, we will deploy a layered missile defense system to defend our homeland against missile attacks from states such as North Korea and Iran.

Economic security is national security. A strong economy protects the American people and sustains American power. We will rejuvenate the American economy for the benefit of American workers and companies. We will insist on fair and reciprocal economic relationships to address trade imbalances. We are committed to preserving our leadership in research and technology and to protecting our economy from competitors who unfairly acquire our intellectual property. And we will embrace America's energy dominance, because unleashing abundant energy resources stimulates our economy.

Another central principle of my national security policy is achieving peace through strength. While I am committed to seeking diplomatic solutions to our critical international challenges, we must grow and modernize our military forces—including space and cyber capabilities—to ensure our military power is second to none. Despite the tremendous gains our military has made against ISIS and al-Qa'ida in Syria and Iraq, jihadist terrorist organizations continue to present a dangerous threat to America. Working with partner nations is essential to meeting these challenges, as is ensuring that our allies are contributing their fair share to our mutual defense and to the defeat of foreign terrorist threats.

America has been among the greatest forces for good in the world. My foreign policy celebrates America's influence in the world as a positive force that can help set the conditions for peace and prosperity. We will continue to champion American values and offer encouragement to those struggling for human dignity in their societies.

Thank you again for writing. To learn more about how the NSS will bolster our Nation's foreign policy and improve our military readiness, please visit www.WhiteHouse.gov. As President, I am committed to strengthening our Nation and protecting the American people.

Amhlum



THE WHITE HOUSE washington March 8, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Babson,

Thank you for taking the time to express your concern regarding the hurricanes that have decimated homes and businesses, and disrupted the lives of many of our fellow Americans. Even in the midst of these unfortunate circumstances, the American spirit prevails.

Tragic times such as these bring out strength, charity, and resilience that characterize our great Nation. The strength of the American family has been on full display, with neighbor helping neighbor, friend helping friend, and stranger helping stranger. We hurt together; we struggle together; and we endure together.

The road to recovery will be long and difficult, and the Federal Government stands ready, willing, and able to support people in the affected areas. Thanks to the outstanding response by our military, Federal, State, and local first responders, as well as volunteers across this country, countless storm victims are safe and are beginning to rebuild. My Administration will continue supporting State and local efforts to save lives, provide shelter, and expedite requested assistance to affected areas.

Melania and I continue to send our prayers to all those affected and the dedicated Americans who have donated their time, money, and resources to help rebuild the cities and communities of our great Nation.

NMMMM



THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON March 8, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

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Amhlum



THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON February 23, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Eric,

Thank you for taking the time to write to me about draining the swamp in Washington. For far too long, the political class in our Nation's capital has tended to special interests, while ignoring the struggles faced by hardworking Americans.

I am committed to returning the power to the people, where it belongs, and to draining the swamp. Shortly after taking office, I signed an Executive Order banning employees of my Administration from lobbying their former agency colleagues for five years after leaving their position. My order also prohibits these employees from ever lobbying the United States on behalf of a foreign government. Public servants must be focused on serving the American people, not on how they can use their position to benefit themselves in the future.

Additionally, I signed important legislation making it easier for the Department of Veterans Affairs to fire bad employees. For too long, Federal workers who fail the American people have been able to continue to collect taxpayer-funded paychecks. That is changing on my watch.

My Administration is also focused on eliminating existing unnecessary and unduly burdensome regulations that advantage the well-connected, while hurting hardworking American taxpayers. Accordingly, I signed an Executive Order instituting a "one in, two out" policy to require the repeal of at least two existing regulations for each new one that is issued. This important policy change will reduce the size and scope of the regulatory state, and increase freedom and opportunity in America.

Thank you again for writing. As President, I will work to hold the Federal Government accountable and drain the swamp, and I will continue fighting for an agenda that benefits American workers and families rather than special interests.

MMMMM



WASHINGTON

February 2, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Eric,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding tax policy.

For far too long, American taxpayers carried the weight of an outdated tax system that stifled business growth, forced companies to move overseas, and burdened hardworking families. This is why my Administration worked with Congress to enact the first overhaul of our country's tax code in more than 30 years. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, which I signed into law on December 22, 2017, unleashes the full potential of America's economy by simplifying the tax code, cutting taxes for the middle class, and lowering tax rates for both individuals and businesses.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act provides a total of \$5.5 trillion in tax cuts, \$3.2 trillion of which goes to families. It also provides \$4 trillion of reforms by eliminating tax breaks and loopholes that primarily benefit multinational corporations and wealthy taxpayers. The standard deduction has nearly doubled, which will simplify tax filing for many Americans because it will be more advantageous to claim the standard deduction than to itemize. The child tax credit has doubled to \$2,000 per child under age 17, and it has been extended to more families. The bottom line is that Americans will keep more of their hard-earned paychecks.

After nearly a decade of crippling American families, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act repealed Obamacare's burdensome individual mandate. This will provide much-needed relief to households with income below \$50,000, which made up nearly 80 percent of the households that paid the mandate penalty in 2016. Additionally, the new law exempts the vast majority of farms and businesses from the estate tax, helping rural America grow and thrive once again.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act lowered the corporate tax rate from 35 percent, the highest in the developed world, to 21 percent, placing American businesses on a level playing field with foreign competitors. Moreover, the new law imposes a one-time tax on corporate earnings accumulated overseas, ending the incentive for companies to keep those profits offshore. Already, we are seeing jobs and investment flow back into the United States from overseas.

Thank you again for writing. To learn more about the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, please visit www.whitehouse.gov. As President, I am committed to unleashing economic growth, and these tax cuts are the fuel our economy needs.

Amhlum



WASHINGTON January 26, 2018

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Eric,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding the Second Amendment.

As our country continues to heal from the horrific shootings in Las Vegas, Nevada, and Sutherland Springs, Texas, we think about why these tragedies occur and how we can prevent them in the future. When confronting such acts of pure evil, the answers never come easily. Melania and I are keeping all of those affected in our thoughts and prayers.

As President, I have no higher obligation than to protect the safety of America and its people. In these efforts, my Administration will always be guided by the wisdom of our Constitution, which ensures the right of individuals to keep and bear arms. The Founders enshrined this protection in the Second Amendment because they understood that the ability of law-abiding people to defend themselves and their families is a hallmark of a free and sovereign people.

Undermining our Second Amendment rights will not enhance our safety. Rather, we must redouble our efforts to prevent criminals from obtaining and using firearms to harm innocent Americans. My Administration will always enforce Federal law and work with State and local officials to keep firearms out of the wrong hands and protect Americans from violent criminals.

Thank you again for writing. As President, I am committed to upholding the rule of law and keeping America safe and secure.

Sincerely. NMARINA



THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON December 1, 2017

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Eric,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

We are a Nation of opportunity because we are a Nation of laws. From my first day in this office, I have understood that my most important obligation as President is to uphold the laws and Constitution of the United States.

In June 2012, President Obama's Department of Homeland Security (DHS) bypassed Congress and the Constitution to create its own immigration law from whole cloth, authorizing work permits, the issuance of Social Security numbers, and other Federal benefits to illegal immigrants. DHS is winding down the illegal program in an orderly and minimally disruptive manner over the next few months.

Immigration law, and any reforms to immigration law, must serve Americans first. As I work with Congress on meaningful, pro-American immigration reform for the first time in decades, we will focus first and foremost on improving jobs, wages, and security for Americans and their families. I look forward to achieving real results on immigration issues that are worthy of our exceptional Nation.

Thank you again for writing, and showing your interest in our future. As President, I am committed to upholding the rule of law, pursuing the reforms necessary to restore fairness to our immigration system, and Making America Great Again.

Sincerely, MMMMM



THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON November 30, 2017

Mr. Eric Bobson Berkeley, California

Dear Eric,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding foreign policy and our Nation's military.

My Administration is devoted to strengthening America, protecting our people, and advancing our interests abroad. A central principle of my national security policy is peace through strength. I am committed to seeking diplomatic solutions to our critical international challenges, but we must rebuild our military in order to demonstrate America's resolve and ensure that we remain the greatest fighting force in the world. As President George Washington said, such preparation is "the most effectual means of preserving peace." That is why I am working with the Congress to provide our military leaders with the means necessary to protect our country.

Another central principle of my national security policy is America First. Now, America First does not mean America alone. Rather, it is a commitment to protecting and advancing our vital interests while also fostering cooperation and strengthening relationships with our allies and partners. It is a determination to stand up for our people and our way of life that deepens respect for America. As we do this, we must also restore our leadership role because the world is safer when America leads. American leadership is necessary to address the serious problems we face—from rogue regimes to terrorist groups like the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria and al-Qa'ida. Working with others is essential to meeting these challenges, as is ensuring that our partners and allies are contributing their fair share to our mutual defense.

Thank you, again, for your suggestions. Please visit <u>http://www.WhiteHouse.gov/america-first-foreign-policy</u> to read more about my foreign policy vision and proposals, and please visit <u>www.WhiteHouse.gov/making-our-military-strong-again</u> to learn more about my plan to strengthen our military. As President, I am focused on growing our economy, strengthening our leadership, and protecting our citizens—and we know that no challenge will outmatch the fight and spirit of the American people.

NMARINA



WASHINGTON

October 18, 2017

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Eric,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding foreign policy and our Nation's military.

My Administration is devoted to strengthening America, protecting our people, and advancing our interests abroad. A central principle of my national security policy is peace through strength. I am committed to seeking diplomatic solutions to our critical international challenges, but we must rebuild our military in order to demonstrate America's resolve and ensure that we remain the greatest fighting force in the world. As President George Washington said, such preparation is "the most effectual means of preserving peace." That is why I am working with the Congress to provide our military leaders with the means necessary to protect our country.

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Mann



September 28, 2017

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Eric,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding immigration policy.

My first duty as President is to keep the American people safe, and that obligation guides my approach to immigration and border security.

Immigration to the United States is a privilege, not a right, and the Federal Government has the responsibility to enforce all laws passed by Congress, to rigorously vet and screen all foreign nationals seeking entry into the United States, and to keep drugs, criminals, and terrorists from entering our country and threatening our citizens.

Additionally, we must have responsible controls on the future entry of foreign workers to protect jobs and wages for existing United States workers of all backgrounds. I have issued an executive order to help accomplish this goal, as I promised during the campaign.

Further, we have achieved a record reduction in illegal immigration on the southern border, an effort that requires constant vigilance against a wide array of threats and challenges. We are also taking action to confront unlawful sanctuary city jurisdictions that dangerously shield criminal aliens. Crucially, we have also begun planning and preparations for the border wall which we need to stop the trafficking of drugs, guns, weapons, and people.

If we continue to enforce our laws and protect our communities, families, and struggling workers, we will reduce our deficit, increase incomes, and make our communities safer for each and every American—present and future.

Ambunn



THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON September 13, 2017

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Eric,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding our country's domestic policy. I am committed to unleashing America's full potential through domestic policies that drive opportunity and economic growth, while ensuring the safety and security of the American people.

My Administration will work each day to advance an America First agenda, and we will do it while remaining committed to a responsible fiscal policy that addresses our Nation's mounting deficit and debt. My 2018 Budget, *A New Foundation for American Greatness*, will eliminate job-killing regulations, drastically shrink the size of the Federal bureaucracy, prioritize the safety and security of American citizens, and reduce our unsustainable \$20 trillion debt, while protecting programs that our senior citizens depend on, like Social Security.

My budget puts America first by investing in a stronger, safer America. That means making our communities great again by supporting law enforcement, rebuilding our crumbling roads and bridges, fixing our education system so that workers can get good jobs, and fighting to eradicate the scourge of drugs that is spoiling the promise of our youth. We must also return to the values and protect the Constitutional freedoms that made America a beacon of hope and opportunity to the world, including the right to keep and bear arms.

My America First policies will bring a new wave of opportunity to this great land. To learn more about my budget and the steps my Administration is taking to keep America safe, please visit www.WhiteHouse.gov.

Thank you again for your suggestions. Your voice, your hopes, and your dreams will define the next generation of American greatness. Your courage, goodness, and love will guide us along the way. As we look to the future, we know that no challenge will outmatch the resolve of the American people to overcome.

Implement



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Smilling



September 13, 2017

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Multim



THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON August 18, 2017

Mr. Eric Babson Berkeley, California

Dear Eric,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding healthcare policy.

Healthcare is a large and complex part of the economy that affects every person and family in America. Due to Obamacare, healthcare premiums continue to rise, while healthcare options continue to disappear. Under Obamacare, our healthcare system is imploding. That is why we must repeal and replace Obamacare with reforms that expand choice, increase access, lower costs and, at the same time, encourage quality healthcare and innovation.

Since my first day as President, we have been working to save Americans from Obamacare's failures. On my first day in office, I signed an executive order to minimize Obamacare's regulatory burdens and to give states greater flexibility and authority to create a more open healthcare market. My Administration has worked ever since, and will continue to work, with Congress to enact permanent reforms that will finally address the needs of our healthcare system.

My Administration will work to replace Obamacare with a system that meets several critical objectives. Obamacare's replacement should ensure that Americans with pre-existing conditions have access to coverage. Additionally, it should provide a stable transition for those currently enrolled in Obamacare's health exchanges and Medicaid expansion. And it should use tax credits and expanded Health Savings Accounts to help Americans purchase healthcare coverage of their own choosing.

Thank you again for your suggestions. Please visit the White House website at www.whitehouse.gov to read more about my health care policy. As President, I am committed to providing Americans with more affordable health insurance, access to more choices, and quality care.

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