Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 9, 2017

Rick Perry
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
Director
National Institutes of Health
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20892

Scott Pruitt
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dr. France Córdova
Director
National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Blvd
Arlington, VA 22230

Dr. Kent Rochford
Acting Director
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Department of Commerce
100 Bureau Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20899

Benjamin Friedman
Acting Administrator
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Robert M. Lightfoot, Jr.
Acting Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
300 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20546

Dear Secretary Perry, Dr. Collins, Administrator Pruitt, Dr. Córdova, Dr. Rochford, Acting Administrator Friedman, and Acting Administrator Lightfoot:

We write to you today to ask for information on the number of jobs that would be eliminated at our nation's universities and National Laboratories if the President's Budget Request (PBR) for Fiscal Year 2018 were to be enacted.

Our universities and National Laboratory system support a world-class workforce of research scientists, engineers, and support personnel who work as teams on long-term solutions to address some of the nation's greatest challenges. Moreover, our universities and National Labs play a unique and critical role in educating the next generation of American scientists and researchers, including thousands of graduate students and postdoctoral researchers at hundreds of U.S. institutions who depend upon federal funding and facilities for their research and training.

We recognize that we must set priorities and make smart, strategic decisions about federal funding. But we also have serious concerns about the priorities this Administration appears to be setting. From economic stagnation and dependence on foreign energy to curing diseases and addressing threats to our national security, scientific research is the foundation for the innovative solutions that will enable us to overcome many of our greatest challenges. Instead, the funding

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levels requested in the FY18 PBR would cause permanent damage to our research infrastructure and workforce and furthermore force our National Labs to lay off critical scientific staff. This is no way to keep America great or maintain our position as a leader in science and innovation.

We cannot properly evaluate the full impact of the FY18 PBR until we know how many university researchers and National Laboratory employees would lose their federal funding or their jobs if these funding levels were enacted. Please provide your projections on how many researchers would be supported in the FY18 PBR compared to the current level as of the spring 2017. Also provide your estimates on how many National Laboratory employees would lose their jobs if these funding levels were enacted. We appreciate your detailed response no later than June 15, 2017.

Sincerely,

Bill Foster
Member of Congress

Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress

Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

Anthony Brown
Member of Congress

Ron Kind
Member of Congress

Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress

Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress

Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress

Jackie Speier
Member of Congress

Paul Tonko
Member of Congress

Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress

Luis V. Gutiérrez
Member of Congress

Steve Cohen
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress

Gwen Moore
Member of Congress

Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress

Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress

John Yarmuth
Member of Congress

Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress

Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress

Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

Jacky Rosen
Member of Congress

Colleen Hanabusa
Member of Congress

Denny Heck
Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Dwight Evans
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress

Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress

Jared Polis
Member of Congress

Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress

David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

David Scott
Member of Congress

Donald Norcross
Member of Congress

Darren Soto
Member of Congress

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress

Matthew Cartwright
Member of Congress

Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

John Garamendi
Member of Congress

A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress