

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 27, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

We are increasingly concerned by the real-life negative impacts your Administration's directives are having on our nation's military and veteran community. This includes the abrupt and indiscriminate termination of more than 30,000 employees across the federal government. Among those fired are veterans, military spouses, caregivers, survivors, and Guard and Reserve members with exemplary performance reviews - including 2,400 employees at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and thousands of employees at the Department of Defense (DOD). These men and women have dedicated their careers to serving veterans and their nation. In return, your Administration has upended their lives and casually discarded their service without any notice or justification - all for a statistic on a press release.

Federal civil service has long been a preferred path for military-affiliated populations, allowing them to continue serving our country while offering competitive wages, benefits, and much-needed stability. In return, every single agency in our government and every single taxpayer benefits from these experienced, talented, and dedicated employees. Across the federal government, veterans make up approximately 30 percent of the workforce - more than 640,000 veterans. At DOD, where you have announced the imminent firing of 5,400 employees, with plans to cut anywhere from 35,000 to 56,000 in the near future - the percentage of veterans is nearly 50 percent. And at VA, where veterans are able to do work directly impacting their fellow veterans, the percentage of veteran employees is nearly 30 percent. Each and every day, these veterans perform duties vital to the American people, our national security and our way of life.

Rather than leading these employees and utilizing their talents to better serve veterans and taxpayers, you have chosen to fire them in an abrupt, inconsistent, unjustified, and unlawful way with no consultation with Congress and absolutely no transparency or accountability to the American people. Your Administration's actions are damaging the economic security and morale of our military and veteran families, the federal government's ability to recruit and retain high-quality talent, and ultimately, our national security. We demand that you cease your attacks on our nation's heroes, who have already given so much in defense of our country, and immediately reinstate those who have been illegally fired with their full back pay and benefits.

Sincerely,



RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
United States Senator



TIM KAINE
United States Senator



MAZIE K. HIRONO
United States Senator




AMY KLOBUCHAR
United States Senator



CORY BOOKER
United States Senator



MARK KELLY
United States Senator



JEFFREY A. MERKLEY
United States Senator



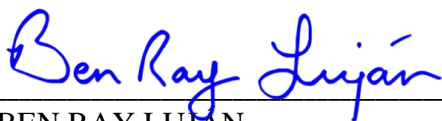
JACKY ROSEN
United States Senator



TAMMY BALDWIN
United States Senator



SHELDON WHITEHOUSE
United States Senator



BEN RAY LUJAN
United States Senator



JEANNE SHAHEEN
United States Senator



BERNARD SANDERS
United States Senator



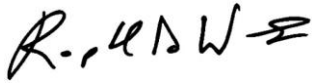
TAMMY DUCKWORTH
United States Senator



JOHN HICKENLOOPER
United States Senator



GARY PETERS
United States Senator



RAPHAEL WARNOCK
United States Senator



CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO
United States Senator



RON WYDEN
United States Senator



ANGELA D. ALSOBROOKS
United States Senator



RICHARD J. DURBIN
United States Senator