

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 6, 2025

Acting Director Charles Ezell  
Office of Personnel Management  
1900 E Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20415-1000

Dear Acting Director Ezell,

We write to express our strong opposition to the Trump Administration's mass termination of veterans and military spouses employed by the federal government. The federal government bears a fundamental responsibility to provide stable, meaningful career paths for these high-priority groups — a responsibility that stems from both our national security interests and our obligations to military families. We urge the Trump Administration to reverse the mass firings of veterans and military families and halt further job cuts to protect those who have dedicated their lives to serving our country.

Veterans and military spouses comprise a significant portion of the federal workforce because of longstanding intentional, bipartisan programs. Since 1944, Congress and successive administrations have implemented programs like the Veterans' Preference Act, Veterans Employment Initiative, and the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act (VEOA) that provide veterans with stable jobs and allowed government to quickly fill important roles. For military spouses, the Military Spouse Non-Competitive Appointment Authority and the Military Spouse Employment Partnership (MSEP) have worked to mitigate the unique challenges faced by spouses who relocate frequently due to their partner's military service.

Unfortunately, many service members choose to leave the military due to limited employment opportunities for their spouses. Unpredictable deployment schedules, limited remote work options, and lack of affordable childcare prevent military spouses from maintaining stable careers. This instability often forces service members to choose between their family's well-being and continuing their service. Continuing to ensure military spouses have access to meaningful employment opportunities with the federal government strengthens family stability, boosts force retention, and supports national security.

Recent mass terminations not only violate our commitment to those who served, they actively undermine the strength and quality of our federal workforce. Veterans and military spouses bring invaluable leadership experience, diverse perspectives, and proven dedication to public service that enhances government performance at every level. Additionally, federal employment has been essential to addressing veteran unemployment levels and the economic instability that affects military families. The Administration's indiscriminate firing of probationary employees threatens to reverse decades of progress in building a strong and capable federal workforce.

We are alarmed by the Administration's sweeping termination of probationary employees conducted without transparency or concern about its impact on veterans and military spouses. These widespread dismissals send a clear message to thousands of veterans and military spouses: the government they defended now views them as disposable.

In light of these concerns, we request the OPM (Office of Personnel Management) provide the following information:

- 1) The total number of federal probationary employees terminated since January 20, 2025, including:
  - a) The specific number of terminated employees who were veterans
  - b) The specific number of terminated employees who were military spouses
- 2) Information about what protections and considerations, if any, the OPM put in place to protect veterans and military spouses during these termination decisions.
- 3) Immediate steps OPM will take to:
  - a) Review these terminations' impact on the veteran and military spouse community
  - b) Issue guidance ensuring veterans and military spouses are appropriately considered in any future workforce decisions.

We request a response to these inquiries by March 11th, 2025. We hope that the Trump administration will uphold our shared responsibility to honor families who have sacrificed for this country.

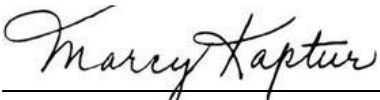
Sincerely,




Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



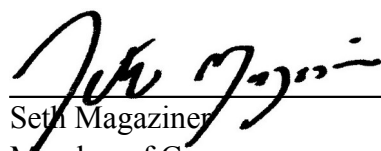
Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress




Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



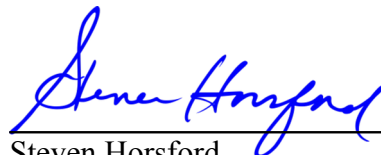
James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



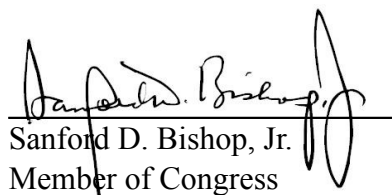
Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



Morgan McGarvey  
Member of Congress



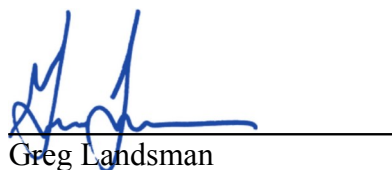
Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress  
Nevada's Fourth  
Congressional District



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress



Greg Landsman  
Member of Congress



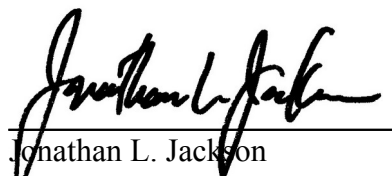
Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress




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Greg Casar  
Member of Congress



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Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



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Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



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Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress



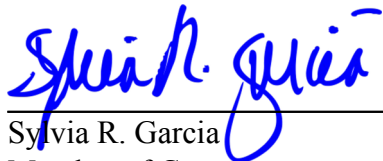
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Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



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Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



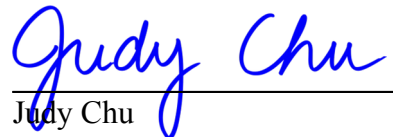
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Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



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Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



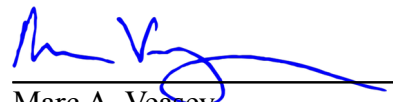
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Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



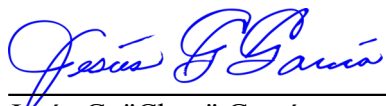
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Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



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Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



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Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



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Al Green  
Member of Congress  
Scion of the Enslaved  
Africans -  
Sacrificed to Make America  
Great



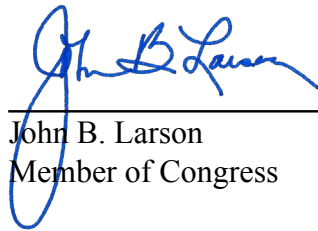
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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



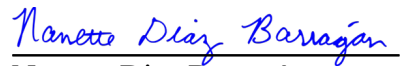
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Laura Friedman  
Member of Congress



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John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



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Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



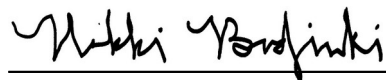
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J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



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Sam T. Liccardo  
Member of Congress



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Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



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Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



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Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress




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Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress

  
Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress

  
Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress

  
Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress