## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

July 11, 2025

The Honorable Russell Vought Director The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 725 17<sup>th</sup> St NW Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Vought:

We ask you to maintain the current pause on reviewing and implementing any agency reorganizations or reductions in force (RIF) actions while litigation surrounding these plans is active and ongoing. OMB should not exceed Congressional authority and undermine the judicial process and should act with caution by pausing any further RIF related actions until the courts have ruled definitively.

While the Supreme Court's recent announcement lifted the district court's injunction on agency reorganization or RIF plans on procedural grounds, it did not rule on the legality of these plans. The plans themselves are still under active legal review and are still being evaluated at the district and appellate levels for compliance with the law. Continuing forward would show active disregard for the judicial process and the Founders' checks and balances intent, as well as create chaos if the courts rule these actions unlawful.

Further, resuming RIFs and reorganizations is premature and risks irreversible harm to federal employees and to our nation. Career civil servants are not expendable pawns, but actual people whose jobs matter. It impacts not only the individual who no longer has a salary to keep a roof over their head or food in the mouths of their families, but also important services that Americans depend on to keep them safe. Whether it's the lab tech who was needed at NIH to help Mr. Schleuter get access to his clinical trial,<sup>1</sup> the National Nuclear Security staff that oversee our country's nuclear weapons stockpile,<sup>2</sup> or the National Weather Service employees that are needed to protect us from extreme weather events,<sup>3</sup> removing or relocating career civil servants

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2025/06/18/nih-cancer-therapy-delay-staff-cuts/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.cnn.com/2025/02/14/climate/nuclear-nnsa-firings-trump

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>https://www.cbsnews.com/news/former-national-weather-service-leaders-letter-noaa-cuts/</u>

from their jobs has consequences. These patriotic individuals have opted to serve our country within the civil service and deserve respect and the due process of the law. Thousands of federal employees have already been affected by this Administration's half-baked, rushed restructuring and resuming RIFs will compound disruption, lower morale, and weaken agencies' capacity to serve the public.

Additionally, it is imperative that we remind you that Congress passes the laws that create and maintain federal offices and structures the federal bureaucracy as it deems appropriate, as well as appropriates funding to agencies to carry out those missions. It is only within Congressionally delegated authority in statute that the Executive branch has the ability to make restructuring decisions. Exceeding statutory allowance undermines the *Loper Bright* decision that this very Administration championed. The Courts are best suited to determine whether agency action runs afoul of Congressional commands.

It would be irresponsible, and risk violating the law, to restart workforce reductions and reorganization without congressional input while legal uncertainty persists. We urge you to take the responsible, measured approach which is to keep any agency reorganization and RIF plans on hold until legal clarity is achieved, which the Supreme Court's recent announcement has not granted.

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