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May 11, 2017

Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein,

As the chief law enforcement officers of our respective states, we view the President's firing of FBI Director James Comey in the middle of his investigation of Russian interference in the presidential election as a violation of the public trust. As prosecutors committed to the rule of law, we urge you to consider the damage to our democratic system of any attempts by the administration to derail and delegitimize the investigation.

The residents of our states and the American people deserve a thorough investigation that makes clear the extent of Russian meddling, any collusion by Trump campaign officials, and any cover-up. Only the appointment of an independent special counsel, pursuant to 28 CFR § 600.1, with full powers and resources, can begin to restore public confidence. We urge you to appoint a special counsel immediately.

Sincerely,

Maura Healey
Massachusetts Attorney General

Xavier Bercerra
California Attorney General

George Jepsen
Connecticut Attorney General

Karl A. Racine
District of Columbia Attorney General

Douglas S. Chin
Hawaii Attorney General

Tom Miller
Iowa Attorney General

Lisa Madigan
Illinois Attorney General

Janet E. Mills
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Brian E. Frosh
Maryland Attorney General

Hector Balderas
New Mexico Attorney General

Eric T. Schneiderman
New York Attorney General

Josh Stein
North Carolina Attorney General

Ellen F. Rosenblum
Oregon Attorney General

Josh Shapiro
Pennsylvania Attorney General

Peter F. Kilmartin
Rhode Island Attorney General

Mark R. Herring
Virginia Attorney General

Thomas J. Donovan Jr.
Vermont Attorney General

Bob Ferguson
Washington Attorney General

Matt Denn
Delaware Attorney General

Lori Swanson
Minnesota Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Richard M. Burr, Chairman, Senate Intelligence Committee
The Honorable Mark Warner, Ranking Member, Senate Intelligence Committee
The Honorable Mike Conaway, House Intelligence Committee
The Honorable Adam Schiff, House Intelligence Committee