The United States has a world-class federal statistical system producing gold-standard products that are invaluable to decision-makers in the public and private sector. The employees of the agencies are talented scientists, researchers, and other professional staff with the utmost commitment to the production of accurate and objective statistics. Federal statistics help to make the United States more economically competitive and secure. They also help to make Americans more healthy, safe, and informed.

Baseless attacks on the statistical agencies, their leadership, and the dedicated staff are destructive to these institutions that are critical infrastructure and vital for so many aspects of our economy, society, and governance.

Rather than impugning the messenger, attention should be focused on what these agencies need to be more effective and efficient to continue fulfilling their missions. As providers of a public good, they have long been under-resourced and supported, as documented in the 2024 report jointly published by the ASA titled, "The Nation's Data at Risk" (https://bit.ly/NationsDataAtRisk). To produce relevant, timely, accurate, and objective statistics, federal statistical agencies also need the support from their parent agency and the rest of the administration as well as statistical integrity safeguards. Not only is such support necessary, it is required by the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018 (Evidence Act).

We stand with the talented, dedicated employees of the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its sister agencies and offices. We call on the Administration to respect the safeguards necessary to produce impartial federal statistics. We urge Congress to ensure the agencies have the necessary delegated authorities needed to maintain public trust in the statistical agencies and products and otherwise fulfill their responsibilities spelled out in the Evidence Act. In addition, we urge the Administration and Congress to provide the statistical agencies with the resources—both staff and funding—needed to ensure that U.S. statistics remain the gold standard and supporting our economy, society, and governance. Finally, we call on the public and especially decision-makers who use the data to speak out in support of objective, trusted, quality government statistics.

By standing with our federal statistical agencies, we can ensure that future policy decisions are guided by a commitment to information and evidence, a tradition that has long been a source of strength for our nation.