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

George Jepsen
Connecticut Attorney General

Douglas S. Chin
Hawaii Attorney General

Xavier Bercerra
California Attorney General

Karl A. Racine
District of Columbia Attorney General

Tom Miller
Iowa Attorney General
Lisa Madigan  
Illinois Attorney General

Brian E. Frosh  
Maryland Attorney General

Eric T. Schneiderman  
New York Attorney General

Ellen F. Rosenblum  
Oregon Attorney General

Peter F. Kilmartin  
Rhode Island Attorney General

Matthew J. Donovan Jr.  
Vermont Attorney General

Matt Denn  
Delaware Attorney General

Janet E. Mills  
Maine Attorney General

Hector Balderas  
New Mexico Attorney General

Josh Stein  
North Carolina Attorney General

Josh Shapiro  
Pennsylvania Attorney General

Mark R. Herring  
Virginia Attorney General

Bob Ferguson  
Washington 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