

Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis



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Professor Orfield,

This letter is in response to your January 10 memo regarding our proposed constitutional amendment and the in-person meeting you requested which took place on February 21 at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. We value and encourage a wide range of views to help us develop and test policy ideas, but we expect those views to be respectful of others and grounded in research and analysis. Unfortunately, your approach fell far short of the mark.

It is clear that you had done little to no work to try to understand our proposed amendment and hadn't even read the background material we published. Nonetheless, only two days after the announcement of our proposal, you authored a memo drawing hyperbolic conclusions and demanded that we respond to your wild assertions.

For example, your assertion that the amendment would remove requirements for public funding for Minnesota schools is simply false, as noted on our website.

Furthermore, your condescending views as to who qualifies as a constitutional scholar appear to be grounded in racism. Your lack of preparation, seriousness or respect for others simply does not meet the standards we expect of those who would seek to advise the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

*NEEL KASHKARI*

Neel Kashkari