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Partnership for Public Service statement on President Joe Biden’s decision to revoke the Schedule F executive order that would have weakened the government’s professional civil service

WASHINGTON – The nonpartisan, nonprofit [Partnership for Public Service](https://www.partnershipforpublicservice.org) released the following statement applauding President Joe Biden for signing an executive order today reversing the 2020 executive order creating a Schedule F job classification that would have weakened the civil service.

“President Joe Biden is to be commended for rescinding a Trump administration executive order that would have undermined the merit-based, nonpartisan civil service system, eviscerated employee due process rights and replaced professionals with partisans,” **said Max Stier, the president and CEO of the Partnership for Public Service.**

The executive order, issued by former President Donald Trump in October, created a new Schedule F job classification within the government’s career civil service for “employees in confidential, policy-determining, policy-making, or policy-advocating positions.” Under the plan that never went into effect, thousands of federal employees could have been converted to the Schedule F positions, subjecting them to termination without cause and replacement by political appointees selected for their loyalty, not competence.

“This executive order would have taken us back to the corrupt and failed system of the 1880s. It represented an assault on our civil service, the core to our system of government and democratic institutions,” **Stier said.**

“While the new administration has revoked a damaging executive order, it now also has an opportunity to deal with many of the underlying challenges facing our government and its workforce,” **Stier said.** “This includes taking steps to strengthen both political and career leadership, increase diversity in the leadership ranks, and bring into government more young people as well as experts in cybersecurity, technology, science and a host of other important professions.”

During the past 19 years, the nonpartisan, nonprofit Partnership for Public Service has been dedicated to making the federal government more effective. We work across administrations to help transform the way government operates by increasing collaboration, accountability, efficiency and innovation.

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