

From: [Kevin Mc](#)
To: [FOMC-Regs-Comments](#)
Cc: [John Hanrahan](#); [Debby Hanrahan](#); [David Schwartzman](#); [JOHN GLOSTER](#); [Alex Bastani](#); [Michael McDonald](#)
Subject: Part 271 Rules Regarding Availability of Information
Date: Monday, October 19, 2020 1:53:04 PM

NONCONFIDENTIAL // EXTERNAL

Dear Folks at the FED:

I hold a Master's in Economics, and I was employed for 22 years, as an Economist, at the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington, DC.

It has recently come to my attention that the FED is considering implementation of a revision to § 271.15 that would allow a President, through the issuance of an Executive Order, to withhold information from the public and thus, effectively, eviscerate the clear intent of the Freedom of Information Act. I say this because I have seen the proposed new wording:

“§ 271.15 Exemptions from disclosure. (a) Types of records exempt from disclosure. Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(b), the following records of the Committee are exempt from disclosure under this part. (1) Any information that is specifically authorized under criteria established **by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and is in fact properly classified pursuant to the executive order.**”

I want you to know that I am a Veteran. I was Honorably Discharged after serving 6 years on Active Duty from the U.S.M.C. I have served, directly, to safeguard the National Defense. And I am certain that whatever *you* do at the FED, it has nothing to do with National Defense.

And, as a Veteran, I take my democracy seriously. As a graduate in Political Science from UNC@Chapel Hill, I take this new, proposed wording as yet another assault on our (i.e. the public's) right to know. After all the work that William Greider and others have done to let us know what is being funded with America's currency, I very much object to your, the FED's, attempt to kick us out of "your" temple through withholding information about your activities.

Sincerely,
Kevin Mc