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**Public Works for a Better Government**

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Professor Atsushi Seike  
President of the University  
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Japan

Dear Mr. President:

I apologize for sending you this letter, but I hope you will excuse me and forward this to other people if you are not the appropriate recipient. The subject of this letter is the recent release of 10,062 legally-mandated public safety standards that my nonprofit organization has made available on a noncommercial basis to promote public education and public safety, equal justice for all, a better informed citizenry, the rule of law, world trade and world peace.

You may find more information about the noncommercial release of these documents by our nonprofit organization at the following URL:

<https://law.resource.org/pub/12tables.html>

My letter to you is because I would like to inform people in Japan, particularly Japanese educators and government officials, that this global public safety collection of edicts of government includes a number of **important public safety standards from Japan**. I could not find an appropriate person to write to, and because I was honored to have served as a Visiting Professor at Keio University and have been inspired by the wise words of Yukichi Fukuzawa in his book "An Encouragement of Learning," I am reaching out to you.

Fukuzawa-sama said in "Gakumon no Susume" that "since the government has become the representative of the people and has acquired the right to act in their behalf, its measures are the people's measures." As you have said so aptly, Fukuzawa-sama "valued learning above all else and emphasized its particular importance in times of great change." In "The Origins of Japanese Civilization," he teaches us that "fresh inquiry creates new discoveries and change, so that the younger generation surpasses its elders."

In Japan, as in many countries around the world, public safety standards represent the state of the art of engineering knowledge. These documents keep our workers safe, but they are also the inspiration for students, entrepreneurs, and inventors who wish to make our world even safer. Because the costs of these standards is so expensive

today, however, those people cannot take advantage of the high-quality work represented in the public safety standards of Japan.

Lack of public availability of public safety standards also hinders trade, both from Japan and to Japan. Japanese industry, recognized as the best in the world in so many fields, must access public safety standards in countries in which they wish to do business. When those standards are not available, there is a barrier to trade and that hurts the Japanese economy. Likewise, those wishing to do business in Japan need to know the standards that protect the people.

I am writing to you because this important issue of access to public safety standards by the public has not been discussed. My wish is that there would be a public dialogue examining this important question. Keio University has always played a leadership role in promoting public education and in promoting the growth and safety of Japanese infrastructure. For example, for many years I have observed the key role the WIDE project in Japan has played in making the Japanese Internet one of the most advanced in the world and contributing a number of key technical standards to the rest of the world that have been instrumental in making our global Internet work.

Again, I apologize if you are not the proper recipient of this letter and would ask if that is the case if I could trouble you for a referral to the proper parties. My time at Keio University was a great inspiration to me and hope it is not too much trouble to ask for your advice and possible help in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Malamud  
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