May 20, 2019 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Senator Harris:

I am concerned about abortion access. For decades the courts have been a conservative and principled force in US politics with a strong deference to precedent, minimal response to popular pressure and a meritocracy of jurists. Many of us have taken this for granted and focused on issues not covered by the courts. Now this is deteriorating with a raft of unqualified hacks being appointed and important precedents threatened including the previous stolen election with Bush vs Gore, the evisceration of the Voting Rights Act, the reinterpretation of the militia clause, the reimagination of campaign finance, the weakening of the ACA and now threats to abortion rights. Our history of strongarming women into bearing unwanted children is recent enough for the resulting damage to be well documented. Congress needs to weigh in with legislative safeguards both to stop the ongoing erosion of rights and to hedge against the vagaries of the court.

Please assure me that you will defend abortion rights.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our respect for individual liberties.

Sincerely, Eric Babson