April 28, 2020 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Senator Skinner:

I am concerned for those without federal recognition. Foreigners are always popular scapegoats and with a terrifying epidemic and xenophobic president undocumented people are particularly targeted both by individuals and by government programs. The point of a representative rather than direct democracy is to temper the excesses of the majority by protecting minorities and taking advice of experts over the latest trend. Right now this means finding ways to support those with small savings, little job security and no access to federal programs. The Disaster Relief Assistance for Immigrants Program initiated by the Governor is a great start but I worry that by making it a separate program rather than a way to provide access to existing ones it will be both a lightning rod for criticism and too small to be effective. Please assure me that you will help the most vulnerable get through this epidemic.

I am very proud to be a California resident and a large part of that derives from our compassionate policies.

Sincerely, Eric Babson