February 19, 2025 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

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I am concerned about scapegoating.

You have long targeted trans people and the past month has been particularly vicious. As you destroy the government you were hired to run and sow bitterness and division in the process you will soon be casting about for targets to blame for the fallout. As a coward and bully you will likely attack the most marginalized among us first. You immediately singled out trans people in several orders- attacking children, athletes, prisoners and soldiers specifically as well as DEI more broadly. Besides the direct damage to people's lives this emboldens violent bigots such as the many you pardoned. The treatment of such a small, visibleand vulnerable minority is a bellwether for our society. One cannot deny the humanity of others without diminishing one's own. *Please assure me that you will support trans people*.

My pride in the US derives in part from our acceptance.

Most respectfully, Eric Babson