

July 1, 2017
Eric Babson
babson@math.ucdavis.edu
1094 Cragmont Avenue
Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am very concerned by vote suppression. You have appointed a voting rights commission. There is significant evidence of widespread voter suppression. Since the loss of enforcement of the voting rights act in 2013 many states (North Carolina, Texas, Alabama, Mississippi and Florida at least) have passed laws to suppress minority voting. Federal courts have ruled against several. I am sorry to see that your Justice Department has tried to drop such cases and encourage vote suppression. I am also sorry to see that your commission is focusing on vote fraud (a problem well documented to be non-existent) rather than the dramatic rise in suppression. This might have been anticipated from the choice of co-chair Kobach, a criminal who was fined this week for lying to a court about vote fraud.

Please assure me that you will refocus on vote suppression.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our democracy.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson