December 24, 2017 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

## Dear Senator Harris:

I am concerned about nationalism and plutocracy. The Republican party is using its slight majority to tear our egalitarian democracy apart. Democracy is under attack through gerrymandering and voter ID laws as well as the Citizens United case and dark money. One reflection of this can be seen in this weeks budget reconciliation bill. The measure was not popular among voters, but provided direct graft to the president and some members of congress and a path to lucrative lobbying work for those who might be voted out. Equality is under attack through cuts to social programs and through scapegoating of immigrants. Both of these are creating an ever more tiered society with increases in poverty and extreme poverty as well as fear and frustration in many communities. The amazing success of our experiment in meritocracy is being lost. Democrats must defend our values.

Thank you for your vote against the stopgap budget measure to fight for DACA.

I am very proud to be a US citizen and a large part of that derives from our welcoming society.

Sincerely,

Eric Babson