February 1, 2018 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about bigotry against gays. Recently there has been a push to couch such bigotry as religious freedom. Enshrining bias in law and policy is clearly immoral but also particularly destructive. Hateful people take strength from these policies and violence increases. I remember from the 80's when there were more such policies, vicious comments and my friend's stabbing as well as the rapid acceptance once the policies changed. There is currently an education bill in congress which will encourage discrimination at colleges in the name of religious freedom. The Department of Justice has also been active with a brief in the wedding cake case and memos preventing prosecution of businesses which discriminate.

Please assure me that you will support gays as you promised during your campaign.

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

Sincerely, Eric Babson