

February 1, 2020
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Dear Senator Harris:

I am concerned for democracy. The Senate may have outlived its usefulness. The worlds greatest deliberative body has spent the past term as a rubber stamp for clearly incompetent jurists while blocking nearly all legislation and is presently holding a show trial. What little of substance was considered in the previous term was largely rammed through by leadership (two budget reconciliation bills around taxation and health care) with little proofreading much less deliberation. A century ago some vestiges of a confederation of sovereign states were dropped with the direct election of Senators but apportionment by state remains leaving you and Senator Feinstein to represent an eighth of the population with a fiftieth of the voice. War powers have been abdicated. Budget powers along with advice and consent are being allowed to slip. It is time for the Senate to follow the example of the House of Lords and allow the people's chamber to govern.

Please assure me that the Senate will step aside.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from the rule of the people.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson