January 25, 2025 Eric Babson 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Senator Padilla:

I am concerned about repression of immigrants.

Travel and immigration contribute immeasurably to society. There are the economic benefits running from the silk road of history to the modern fact that immigrants start more companies. There is the demographic benefit of older people retiring to younger societies and vice versa. There is the public safely fact that newcomers are less prone to crime. There is the simple pleasure of a wide range of foods, styles and ideas.

The incoming administration campaigned stoking fear of foreigners and is led by sadistic racists who delight in attacking those least able to defend themselves. What little power the Democratic party retains in Washington was disgustingly abdicated last week as dozens voted to subject immigrants to Draconian penalties for petty offences even as all penalties were being dropped for thousands of violent non-immigrant criminals.

 $Thank\ you\ for\ opposing\ the\ Laken-Riley\ Act.$

My pride in the US derives partly from our pluralism.

Sincerely,

Eric Babson