March 1, 2025 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about pettiness.

International policy now appears mostly based on your feelings and whether you have a triumphant video to show off rather than our national interest. Another servile meeting with President Putin followed by a televised attempt to ambush President Zelensky which backfired when he failed to heed the advice of lavishing praise and avoiding mention of any actual policy has resulted in you backing territorial claims for Russia while opposing a UN resolution, NATO membership and weapons sought for Ukraine. Prime Minister Trudeau and President Sheinbaum also appear to have been insufficiently fawning to avoid another threat of tariffs.

Please assure me that you will put policy goals over your feelings. My pride in the US derives in part from our diplomacy.

Sincerely, Eric Babson