



Minnesota House of Representatives

January 11, 2021

The Honorable Mike Pence
The White House
Office of the Vice President
1600 Pennsylvania Ave N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

via electronic delivery

Dear Vice President Pence,

The violence that took place in Washington, D.C. on January 6, 2021 was unacceptable. We all witnessed an insurrection – in reality, an attempted coup – attacking our U.S. Capitol, instead of the peaceful transition of power that should proceed following a legitimate and fair election. It was shocking to watch the House and Senate chambers and Capitol offices occupied and damaged. But worse than that, tragically, five people have died, including a Capitol police officer, and fifty Capitol police officers were injured. We are a nation of laws, and those who participated in this senseless activity must be held accountable to the fullest extent of the law.

It is clear to everyone, in America and abroad, that President Trump and his staunchest allies incited a failed insurrection. The events were sparked by lies that, while told over and over again, remain just that: lies. The responsibility for the carnage, disorder, and harm to human life lays squarely at the feet of President Trump and his enablers. He can no longer be entrusted with the discharge of the duties of the most powerful office in the world.

Patriots gave their lives during our nation's founding to give the American people the right to choose their own leadership. This week has shown that our democratic experiment is fragile. We cannot allow election results and the very process of Democracy to be taken hostage by those who embrace misinformation and subscribe to baseless conspiracy theories. The chaos that occurred on Wednesday and the inflammatory rhetoric that led up to it cannot become the new normal. For future elections to proceed with the trust of all Americans, we must count on the peaceful transition of power without toxic rhetorical posturing, without violence, and certainly without armed insurrections at our nation's Capitol building. The violence that occurred and the unending tidal wave of lies that led up to it must be rejected in the strongest, most unequivocal, and most certain terms.

While a new administration will take office in a matter of days, the current occupant of the presidency has lost the trust of the American people, and his words and actions indicate he is no longer suitable to govern. We therefore request that you – along with the members of the cabinet

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– immediately invoke the authority under the 25th Amendment of the United States Constitution. This is not a request that comes from a place of partisanship or political disagreement. It comes from genuine concern for the future of our republic. We recognize that this is an unprecedented step, but what occurred Wednesday was also unprecedented, capping off four years of other inappropriate behavior from a President no longer fit to serve. Mr. Vice President: at this time, it is your responsibility to say “enough.” The 25th Amendment was devised as the appropriate remedy with which to do so.

Our nation and the world have faced enormous challenges over the past year. All Americans deserve the opportunity to see us – as elected leaders at all levels – work together to help ensure we can emerge from the current challenges and offer everyone a strong future. We urge you to take this action immediately in order to help our nation move forward toward that goal peacefully.

Sincerely,



Representative Jennifer Schultz



Representative Patty Acomb



Representative Esther Agbaje



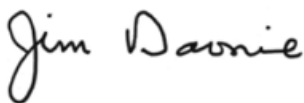
Representative Robert Bierman



Representative Liz Boldon



Representative Shelly Christensen



Representative Jim Davnie



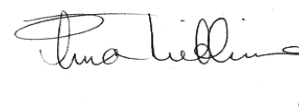
Representative Michael Howard



Representative Sydney Jordan



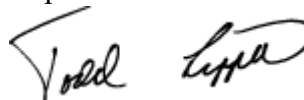
Representative Fue Lee



Representative Tina Liebling



Representative Leon Lillie



Representative Todd Lippert



Representative Sandra Masin



Representative Rob Ecklund



Representative Heather Edelson



Representative Peter Fischer



Representative Mike Freiberg



Representative Cedrick Frazier



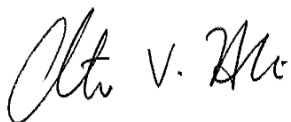
Representative Aisha Gomez



Representative Emma Greenman



Representative Kaohly Her



Representative Athena Hollins



Representative Frank Hornstein



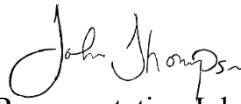
Representative Liz Olson



Representative Dave Pinto



Representative Steve Sandell



Representative John Thompson




Representative Samantha Vang




Representative Ami Wazlawik



Representative Dan Wolgamott



Representative Cheryl Youakim



Representative Tou Xiong



Representative Jay Xiong