

February 27, 2025

Senate Judiciary Committee 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Committee Members,

America First Legal Foundation is a national, nonprofit organization that promotes the rule of law in the United States, works to prevent executive overreach, and educates the public to advance civil rights, due process, and equal protection for all Americans.

The Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division (CRT) has a simple charter: to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and enforce federal statutes prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, and national origin, among other things. Our nation has made great strides toward realizing the Constitution's promise of color-blind equality, and CRT has played a key role in this struggle.

However, the fight to secure color-blind equality for all American citizens is far from over. From corporate boardrooms to college admissions offices to factory floors, unlawful discrimination based on race, color, sex, religion, and national origin persists, justified by reference to the pernicious and divisive doctrine of "diversity, equity, and inclusion" (DEI). As Justice Harlan said, "Our constitution is color-blind, and neither knows nor tolerates classes among citizens. In respect of civil rights, all citizens are equal before the law." *See Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President & Fellows of Harvard Coll.*, 600 U.S. 181, 264 (2023) (Thomas, J., concurring) (citation omitted). America First Legal has fought relentlessly to demolish illegal DEI from our founding day. But CRT must lead the way.

This is why America First Legal believes Harmeet Dhillon would be the perfect choice to lead this historic office.

First, Ms. Dhillon is extremely well qualified for this position. After graduating from Dartmouth College, she earned her Juris Doctor from the University of Virginia School of Law, where she served on the Editorial Board of the University of Virginia Law Review. Following law school, she clerked for Judge Paul V. Niemeyer of the

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United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in Baltimore, Maryland. Finally, Ms. Dhillon has more than three decades of litigation and legal practice management experience.

Second, Ms. Dhillon has shown she will defend the rights of all American citizens. She has advocated for religious liberty, parents' rights, and, despite immense political pressure, Americans' right to be free from overreaching government mandates. Notably, she represented independent contractors, both Republicans and Democrats, who didn't qualify for PPP loans during the pandemic. These barbers and beauticians were left to starve—prohibited by government officials in Sacramento from earning a living.

In 2017, the Berkeley College Republicans invited David Horowitz, Ann Coulter, and Ben Shapiro to speak on campus. To their surprise, university administrators imposed restrictions on these speakers that didn't apply to other guest speakers. For example, with respect to Ann Coulter, university administrators imposed a 3 p.m. curfew on her speech and only allowed her to speak during "dead week," which is the week after the conclusion of instruction but before final exams when students are off campus preparing for exams. The university also imposed exorbitant "security fees" determined by the community's reaction to the speech—a highly unconstitutional practice known as the "heckler's veto." Ms. Dhillon sued Berkeley for violating the First Amendment. As a result of her advocacy, Berkeley adopted lawful policies.

America First Legal exists to protect our citizens' civil rights regardless of race, color, sex, religion, or national origin. Therefore, we enthusiastically endorse Ms. Dhillon as the next Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division.

Sincerely,

America First Legal Foundation