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“The Constitution’s Promise: Out of Many, One”

E Pluribus Unum! One government, one service, one great nation! Our country was founded on the premise of an insightful document, the United States Constitution. This document has provided guidance for citizens through the governance of change, evolution, and growth. The spirit of this governance emulates the focus of “E Pluribus Unum”, “Out of Many, One”, our country’s official motto since 1782. Its intent is not to separate us by our differences but rather to celebrate our differences by uniting us as diverse people into one body and one great nation. What began as the original Thirteen Colonies, separate in purpose and intent, became a single group of people forever united as one under a common federal government, and this very **promise**.

Our nation today could not have evolved to the power and world symbolism it has without diversity. The colonies showed us that our strength lies in our differences. What was once an array of cultures and beliefs has now been unified rather than divided. Our diversity makes us strong. Despite the many physical, economic, and moral hardships that have tested this promise, our nation has held steadfast and loyal. Modern issues including immigration, counterterrorism, climate control, civil rights, healthcare, and gender equality have threatened to break our unity and create fractures in our diverse nation. As a determined country, we are stronger than what threatens to break us. Rather than succumbing to these pressures, we have refocused our commitment to the promise we made.

Through the Bill of Rights, we have experienced what is meant by “We the People”. “We” refers not to a specific race, gender, or community, but to *all* citizens as one body united through our common beliefs and purpose. These beliefs include the right to be heard, validated,

and empowered to see, hear, and speak freely without judgment. As we evolve as a nation, these beliefs must also evolve. We must strive to challenge current beliefs to ensure that we do not remain stagnant and rigid. Our Constitution was not built to sit on a shelf frozen in time, but to evolve and to adapt to the needs of its people. It shows us that we need to be flexible in our thinking and allows us to revisit its meaning to adapt to the ever-changing needs of local communities, states, and our nation as a unified body.

On a personal level, the promise of the Constitution has provided me with hope for my future and hope for the future of this great and unified nation. It has made me think critically about my own beliefs and my responsibility to my community. I am an avid believer in service and often give of my time through service to my school, church, and community. Service allows me to contribute to our diverse society by upholding the promise of the Constitution. This promise exists to celebrate our differences and to remind us that “Out of Many, One”.