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To whom it may concern:

The upcoming conference on "Progressive Halakha" at Harvard Law School approaches a sensitive issue, but one we must not retreat from. For many, myself and our school included, Halakha is not an abstract legalistic notion, but an intimate encounter that informs and animates our lives on a daily basis. Its embeddedness in our collective lives and community is what makes it such a sensitive issue, but also such an important one. I am so pleased to see that Harvard Law School is convening such an accomplished and scholarly network to discuss how an abiding commitment to Halakha can be integrated into the ever-changing contours of our lives. Surely, the scholars attending have different, oftentimes conflicting, views, but even those perspectives different from our own can help enrich our collective appreciation for the Halakhic system and values. I commend Harvard Law School for ensuring these crucial conversations are convened.

In deep gratitude,

Rabbi Ari Segal

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