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House of Representatives
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July 6, 2009

President Lawrence Bacow
Office of the President
Tufts University
Ballou Hall, 2nd Floor
Medford, MA 02155

Dear President Bacow:

I met recently with Kristin Rondeau, Director of the New Union Project, who told me of efforts to create an employee organization at Tufts, on the model of the Harvard Union of Clerical and Technical Workers which she organized more than twenty years ago.

Ms. Rondeau alleges that Tufts University has attempted to impede organizing efforts. I made plain to her, as I will to you, that I never urge employees to form a union or to choose to affiliate with one union as opposed to another. However, I support unequivocally the right to organize in a fair and transparent environment. The freedoms of speech, assembly, and association are basic human rights. Moreover, I need not remind the author of *Bargaining for Safety and Health and Regulating Occupational Hazards through Collective Bargaining* of the contributions unions have historically made to the dignity and well-being of American workers.

I trust that you acknowledge and respect the right to organize as I do, and that you will direct that it be respected at Tufts.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress
8th Massachusetts

Cc: Kris Rondeau