



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

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SENATOR JAMES B ELDRIDGE
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February 8, 2011

Tufts Employee Association
15 Mount Auburn Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Tufts University Community:

I am writing in support of the wonderful work that the clerical and technical staff at Tufts University have undertaken in their drive to form a union. I am very impressed by the organization that they have formed for themselves, and I believe that the way in which they have gone about their union drive puts them at the cutting edge of the labor movement.

As a state senator, I understand that as the economy of Massachusetts and the nation transitions, more and more people will be employed in the service sector of the economy. The jobs these people have are central to our economy and to the livelihoods of many families, and very importantly many of them cannot be outsourced overseas.

In these times, many people are thankful simply to have jobs. However, I applaud the Tufts Employee Association (TEA) for understanding that employees in the service sector can still strive to improve the places where they work, and can benefit from the constant security and companionship of a union. I admire the ambition of the staff at Tufts, and believe that they provide a valuable example for other employees at schools and universities around the United States.

I look forward to tracking the progress that the employees at Tufts make, and congratulate them on their progress and leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jam B. Eldridge".

Jamie Eldridge
State Senator
Middlesex Worcester District