

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

May 8, 2009

Ms. Kris Rondeau
The New Union Project
15 Mount Auburn Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Kris,

We understand that you are engaged in an important discussion with the employees of Tufts University about whether your union will be their collective bargaining representative.

We have great respect for Tufts, which is one of the pre-eminent research universities in the nation. It's an institution with high educational standards, and respected traditions, and its employees' effective hard work and dedication have helped make it such a widely acclaimed university.

It's been our privilege over the years to work with your union, which has represented employees at Harvard, UMass Medical School, UMass Memorial Health Care and many other institutions. At each of these institutions, the union has gained the respect of the community and formed partnerships with management, strengthening them into even greater places of learning and healing.

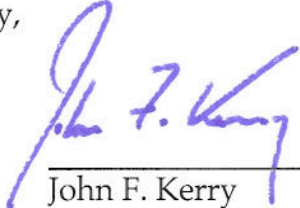
In this time of economic crisis, it is more important than ever that we remember the indispensable role of unions in providing security and dignity for American workers. Unions have helped build America's middle class, and have a vital role today in restoring the American dream and giving workers a strong stake in their own futures.

As you discuss with workers whether to form a union at Tufts, you have our full confidence that you will lead a free and fair process. We commend your dedication to giving workers a voice on the job.

With respect and warmest wishes,

Sincerely,


Edward M. Kennedy


John F. Kerry