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Assembly  
California Legislature

**PHILIP Y. TING**  
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS CHAIR  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, NINETEENTH DISTRICT

丁右立  
州眾議員

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BUDGET  
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CHAIR: ASIA/CALIFORNIA TRADE AND  
INVESTMENT PROMOTION

JOINT COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES  
AND AQUACULTURE

May 7, 2014

Katrina Abston  
Head of Schools  
California Virtual Academies  
2360 Shasta Way, Unit A  
Simi Valley, CA 93065

Dear Ms. Abston,

It has recently come to my attention that the employees at California Virtual Academies (CAVA) decided to unionize with the California Teachers Association. I support their legally protected decision and am confident they are committed to improving both learning and teaching conditions at CAVA.

A primary purpose of California's public education system is to educate and prepare students to participate in our democratic institutions, culture and society. It is crucial that we maintain the public character of our public education system.

Since your Charter and Charter Renewal Agreement expressly acknowledges that your schools are the exclusive public school employer of the employees within the meaning of the Educational Employment Relations Act (EERA), I anticipate that CAVA will fully honor your employees' rights to organize under the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB).

Further, in the months to come when PERB certifies the union as the exclusive representative, you will have the opportunity to collectively bargain with the educators who work at CAVA. I encourage you and the rest of the CAVA administration to take this responsibility seriously, and engage with your employees in a respectful and productive way. It would be very disappointing if CAVA's response was anything but respectful of your employee's rights as clearly established in the EERA.

I look forward to watching this relationship progress. Please let me know if I can be of assistance in any way.

Sincerely,



Philip Y. Ting  
Assemblymember, 19<sup>th</sup> District