

SENATOR
ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS
DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE LEADER
STEWARTCOUSINS.NYSENATE.GOV



THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK

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September 20th, 2017

David Hayes
Hilton Albany / United Capital Corporation
40 Lodge Street
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mr. Hayes,

We are writing to discuss your current contract negotiations with unionized employees at your hotel. It is our understanding that your company is currently negotiating with employees represented by the Hotel Trades Council for the first time, as your company purchased the hotel in 2015 and the union contract recently expired. We urge you to bargain in good faith, and come to a mutually beneficial agreement with your employees.

Media reports have indicated that your company has proposed substantial reductions in benefits for your employees, including elimination of a defined-benefit pension in favor of a 401(k) style plan, a loss of two bereavement days per year, other reductions in paid leave, and elimination of call-in pay when an employee is called to work on a scheduled day off.

We understand that there are two sides to every dispute, and we wish for the Hilton Albany to be economically viable and successful. Your hotel has a long history of working with its employees in a positive manner, and management should strive to maintain an amicable approach to the hotel's workforce and labor relations. Unfortunately, until this contract dispute is resolved, please be advised that we will not cross a picket line maintained by your workforce.

Many New York legislators appreciate the Hilton Albany's presence near the State Capitol because we strongly value the high quality, middle-class jobs that it provides. We are hopeful that you will amend your approach to your employees and their union and reach an amicable resolution to your dispute. The most important outcome is a fair contract agreement that guarantees the preservation of good, middle-class jobs in Albany.

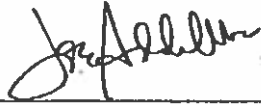
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea Stewart-Cousins".

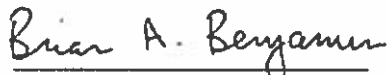
Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Senate Democratic Conference Leader



Senator Michael Gianaris
Deputy Conference Leader



Senator Joseph Addabbo



Senator Brian Benjamin



Senator Leroy Comrie



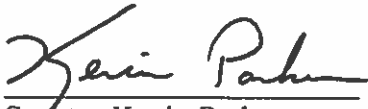
Senator Brad Hoylman



Senator Tim Kennedy



Senator George Latimer



Senator Kevin Parker



Senator Gustavo Rivera



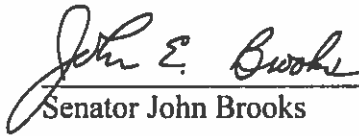
Senator Jose M. Serrano



Senator Neil Breslin
44th Senatorial District, Albany County



Senator Jamaal Bailey



Senator John Brooks



Senator Martin Malave Dilan



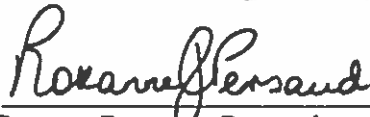
Senator Todd Kaminsky



Senator Liz Krueger



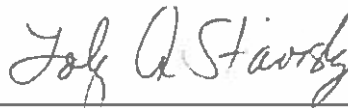
Senator Velmanette Montgomery



Senator Roxanne Persaud



Senator James Sanders



Senator Toby Stavisky