May 2, 2012

Dr. Charles Reed, Chancellor
California State University
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, CA 90802

Via fax and mail

Dear Chancellor Reed:

I have been informed that 95 percent of CSU faculty members voted to approve a strike. I am disappointed that after over 22 months of bargaining, there is still no contract agreement with the faculty. I urge you to approve the faculty members’ requests immediately.

Based on the CSU Board of Trustees’ actions in giving (1) a 33 percent raise of $100,000 to the presidential position at San Diego State University, (2) two 10 percent raises to your last two CSU presidential appointments, (3) ample car allowances for CSU presidents, (4) multi-million dollar homes for some CSU presidents, and (5) hundreds of thousands of dollars to renovate multi-million dollar homes of CSU presidents, it would appear CSU has ample money to spend.

As a matter of consistency, honesty, and fairness, you should also give 10 percent to 33 percent raises to your faculty. After all, faculty members are far more important than CSU presidents because faculty members are the ones that teach CSU students. Fortunately for students and taxpayers, however, faculty members are not tone-deaf and have merely requested a 1 percent pay raise. Certainly you could give faculty members one-tenth to one-thirty third of what you have given CSU presidents. Anything else would be unfair, unjustified, and flatly hypocritical.

Sincerely,

TED W. LIEU
State Senator, District 28