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House of Representatives State of Iowa Eighty-Fourth General Assembly STATEHOUSE Des Moines, Iowa 50319

## COMMITTEES Labor, Ranking Member

Ranking Member Human Resources State Government

APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE Health and Human Services

Paul Lemmon Chief of Staff AFL-CIO 815 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW Washington D.C. 20006

Paul,

As you are aware, I have been a member of the Labor Committee in the Iowa House of Representatives for the past sixteen years. For the last eight years I have been Ranking Member of the Labor Committee. During those sixteen years I have steadfastly and passionately stood with and fought for the rights of working men and women throughout the state of Iowa – because it is the right thing to do.

That is why it is so frustrating to learn that you have chosen not to do the same for my Brothers and Sisters in the OPEIU LOCAL 2.

Your "last/best/final offer" reminds me of something that a company such as Walmart might offer – not of an organization that was established to champion workers' rights. I understand that the AFL-CIO rejected OPEIU's offers to continue negotiating or go to mediation. This tells me that you have no intention to bargain in good faith.

To say I am disappointed would be an understatement.

I truly hope that you will reconsider your current "last/best/final offer" position. If you do not reconsider your position you could very easily put the upcoming election in jeopardy. But more importantly you will have turned your back on the very principals the AFL-CIO was founded on.

I sincerely hope that you will go back to the bargaining table with an open mind and will work towards a contract that benefits all parties involved. Because, as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said – "All Labor has dignity". I hope you will keep that in mind as you continue your negotiations.

Sincerely

Representative Bruce Hunter House District 34 Iowa House of Representatives