Lynch * USSENATE

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Bill Fine President & General Manager WCVB-TV 5 TV Place Needham, MA 02494

Dear Bill:

I am excited that both Democratic campaigns for U.S. Senate have reached an agreement to participate in the consortium debate on March 27 at WCVB. The voters of Massachusetts deserve the opportunity to hear from both candidates, and I believe the consortium debate will help expand the voter base for this special election.

However, I am writing to discuss another issue at WCVB.

As you know, I am a card carrying union member, and have always stood by my brothers and sisters in labor. It is my understanding that members of IBEW 1228 – which represents camera operators, editors, and technicians at WCVB – are working under an extended contract, and have not had a new contract since July 2011.

This situation is disconcerting at a time when I am planning a major advertising buy. Despite my desire to air as much paid advertising as possible during this campaign cycle, I cannot in good conscience spend hundreds of thousands of dollars advertising on WCVB while IBEW members have gone nearly two years without a new contract. A similar issue arose during my first campaign for Congress in 2001, when I was forced to skip a debate at Fox 25 because I refused to cross a picket line.

If a resolution to this matter is not on the horizon, then I may be forced to restrict my advertising to other stations. Obviously this situation is not ideal for anyone.

If there is anything I can do to help mediate this contract dispute, please let me know. I hope we can find a solution that protects the integrity of the collective bargaining process.

Singerely,

Paid for and anthorized by Stephen F. Lynch for Senate