

CHRIS BENGE
SPEAKER



CAPITOL BUILDING
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Office of the Speaker
Oklahoma House of Representatives
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
March 5, 2010

Sterling Zearley
Executive Director
Oklahoma Public Employees Association
13 NE 28th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Sterling:

I wanted to take a moment to personally express my gratitude for OPEA's help in resolving the recent budget impasse. Without your association's willingness to act quickly, the two-day stalemate could have easily turned into a lengthy situation that inevitably would have put public safety at risk.

The need for keeping Department of Corrections and Department of Public Safety employees on the job was apparent and was helped by your action to bring your members to the Capitol to simply tell their story, and we are most appreciative of your efforts.

Please express my gratitude to your members and thanks to OPEA again for your cooperation and willingness to help the Legislature work through this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Benge".

Chris Benge
Speaker

CB/lmn