

October 19, 2006

Mr. Arthur O. Sulzberger Jr.
Chairman
The New York Times Co.

Dear Mr. Sulzberger:

We are writing you today to urge the New York Times Company to consider carefully the future of the Boston Globe newspaper, and to resist pressures to cut staff and other resources from this precious community asset.

It is our interest, and duty, to help preserve quality journalism in Boston and throughout the New England region. For generations, the Globe has served its community well as a paper of record, an outlet for compelling, prize-winning reporting and writing, a force for positive change and civic activism, and a sounding board for the public at large.

Boston Globe journalists have risked and, in some cases, given their lives in pursuit of news from the world's most dangerous war zones and treacherous locales.

The Globe has helped lead us in celebrating some of our greatest triumphs, and guided us through the depths of our darkest truths.

Yet progressively over time since the New York Times Co. acquired the Boston Globe in 1993, a troubling pattern of disinvestment, downsizing, outsourcing and cost cutting has emerged. We understand the difficulties that the entire newspaper industry is encountering. A gradual sea change in how consumers get their news has been underway for some time. And consequently, newspaper circulation, advertising revenue and overall staffing has suffered. The Globe is not immune to these conditions.

However, neither is the Globe immune to the damaging effects of newsroom staff reductions. A shrinking news hole and the elimination of bureaus have stung the morale of employees facing increased health care costs and wage freezes.

Any damage done to the Globe is, ultimately, damage done to the readers it serves.

Therefore, we urge the New York Times Co. to invest in the Boston Globe and invest in the future of Globe employees – rather than look for new ways to get by with less and less. The Globe is far more than just another asset on your balance sheet. To Greater Boston and the entire New England region, the Globe is a jewel - one that is critical to our quality of life and to our civic, cultural, educational, government and economic institutions.

There is a long and storied tradition of excellence behind the Boston Globe. What a terrible shame it would be if the premier brand in journalism – the New York Times Co. – was responsible for doing genuine harm to that tradition.

We trust that is not your intent - though we ask, respectfully, for your assurance.

Sincerely,



Edward M. Kennedy
United States Senate



Stephen Lynch
U.S. House of Representatives



Robert Haynes
President
Massachusetts AFL-CIO



Dennis Rivera
President
Service Employees International Union
Local 1199
United Healthcare Workers East



Rocio Saenz
President
Service Employees International Union
Local 615



Gary Sullivan
President
Utility Workers Local 369



Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone
City of Somerville



Jarrett T. Barrios
Massachusetts State Senate



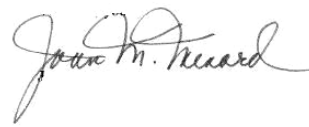
Jack Hart
Massachusetts State Senate



Robert Havern
Massachusetts State Senate



Brian A. Joyce
Massachusetts State Senate



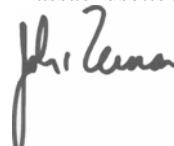
Joan M. Menard
Massachusetts State Senate



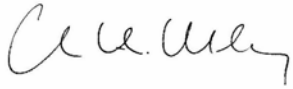
Steven A. Tolman
Massachusetts State Senate



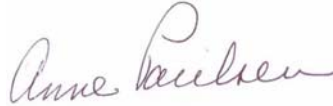
Christopher Donelan
Massachusetts House of Representatives



John D. Keenan
Massachusetts House of Representatives




Charles A. Murphy
Massachusetts House of Representatives



Anne Paulsen
Massachusetts House of Representatives



Timothy J. Toomey Jr.
Massachusetts House of Representatives
Cambridge City Council



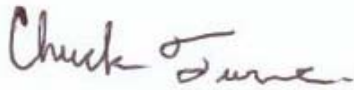
Martin J. Walsh
Massachusetts House of Representatives



John M. Tobin
Boston City Council



Felix D. Arroyo
Boston City Council



Chuck Turner
Boston City Council



Stephen J. Murphy
Boston City Council



Michael A. Sullivan
Cambridge City Council



Edward Kelly
President
Boston Firefighters Local 718

Joseph Kriesberg
President
Massachusetts Association of
Community Development Corporations

James Leary
Massachusetts House of Representatives

Brian Murphy
Cambridge City Council

CC:
Board of Directors – New York Times Co.
P. Steven Ainsley – Publisher, Boston Globe