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California State Senate

SENATOR
ANDY VIDAK

FOURTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



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March 13, 2017

The Honorable Kevin De Leon
President pro Tempore
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator De Leon:

Over the last few days I have personally heard from several witnesses whose reports appear consistent, credible, and very disturbing.

On the eve of his confirmation hearing before the Senate Rules committee, the witnesses tell me that Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) Commissioner Isadore Hall, in an obscenity-laced tirade, threatened to use his position to "get" several farmers who oppose his confirmation. The incident occurred at the Hyatt on February 28.

If true, this is indeed disconcerting and disheartening. We know the names of those who were present, but due to a fear of retaliation, those individuals are reluctant to come forward.

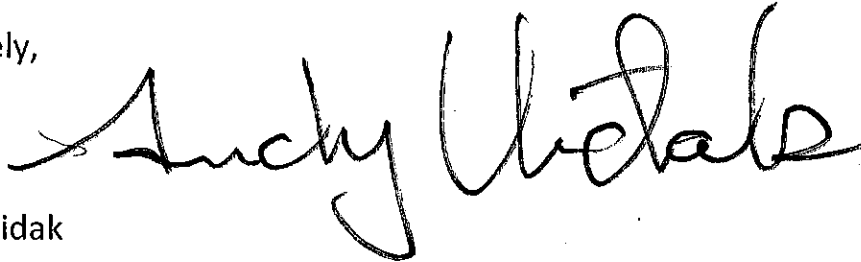
In light of these reports, I am formally requesting that:

- 1) The Senate Rules Committee investigate this incident and inform the entire Senate of its findings; and
- 2) As part of the investigation, the Senate Rules Committee request the testimony of the individuals who were present at the incident and assure them there will be no retaliation; and
- 3) The pending Floor confirmation vote on Commissioner Hall be postponed until the conclusion of the investigation.

Kevin, these are serious allegations against Commissioner Hall and please count on me to help you ensure that the Senate's confirmation process remains a model of integrity on this issue.

Thank you for your attention to this troubling matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Vidak". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent initial "A".

Andy Vidak

Cc: The Honorable Governor Jerry Brown
The Honorable Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom
The Honorable Members of the California State Senate