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COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND THE WORKFORCE

RANKING MEMBER
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EARLY CHILDHOOD, YOUTH,
AND FAMILIES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS

December 2, 1998

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0531

MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

31ST DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA



WASHINGTON OFFICE:

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0531
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COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Mr. Paul John Alonte To
267 W. Renwick Road
Azusa, CA 91702

Dear Mr. To:

I am writing in response to your request for assistance with a problem you are experiencing at California State Poly Technic University in Pomona (CAL Poly) regarding your being prohibited from attending lectures due to vocal ticks caused by Tourette Syndrome.

I contacted the U.S. Department of Education to determine whether your rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) may have been violated. I was informed that your rights may, indeed, have been violated. However due to the complicated nature of your circumstances and the fact that the rights of other students are involved, the Department could not provide me with a definitive answer. Instead, the Department recommended that you begin by discussing the issue with a CAL Poly official, perhaps a student advisor. If, however, you have already attempted to resolve the problem directly with the school but have not been successful, the Department suggested that you file a claim with the Office of Civil Rights. You can contact the Office of Civil Rights by calling (415) 437-7700 or writing to:

The Office of Civil Rights
U.S. Department of Education
Old Federal Building
50 United Nations Plaza, Room 239
San Francisco, CA 94102-4102

I hope you find this information helpful and wish you the best of luck in resolving this situation successfully. If I can be of further assistance regarding this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marty".

MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ
Member of Congress