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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6225

April 4, 1989

Professor Armen Der Kiureghian
Professor Mihran S. Agbabian
Department of Civil Engineering
University of California
Berkeley, California 94720

Dear Professors Der Kiureghian and Agbabian:

Thank you for your letter informing me of your proposal to construct a technical university in Leninakan based on the American system of higher education.

As one who has been very interested in Armenian affairs over the years, I appreciate being made aware of your proposal. It appears that a great deal of thought has been devoted to the project, and I certainly believe that it is worthy and merits further consideration.

I would suggest first of all that you bring this matter up with the Administration and with representatives of the Soviet Embassy, if you have not done so already. Should you need assistance in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me. Secondly, while I do not wish to be discouraging, I believe that it is likely to be extremely difficult to find funding from the federal government. In an era when federal funds for many important programs are being slashed, it may be in your best interests to pursue opportunities for private funding.

I applaud your effort to initiate this long-term project; as you well know, it will be necessary to proceed with this type of enterprise if we truly expect to promote the overall reconstruction and recovery of Armenia. Again, please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

With every good wish.

Ever sincerely,



Claiborne Pell