

**Written Testimony Submitted to the  
Maryland Senate Finance Committee  
By Noemi Glaeser, Graduate Student  
SB 247**

**State Personnel - Collective Bargaining - Faculty, Part-Time Faculty,  
and Graduate Assistants  
February 16, 2023**

**FAVORABLE**

Dear Chair Griffith, Vice Chair Klausmeier, and Members of the Finance Committee,

graduate students are in all effects employees of the university and greatly contribute to its operation. Despite this, we are compensated significantly less compared to graduate students at other universities, and in fact the compensation barely keeps up with the high cost of living of the area. How can universities in Maryland expect to compete with those in other states by attracting strong students if they offer far worse financial conditions? Collective bargaining is one of the best avenues students could have to share their concerns, and it is a right students in many other states have. Maryland is an outlier by denying its graduate assistants this right.

Sincerely,  
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