



BILL: HB 207 - State Personnel - Collective Bargaining - Graduate Assistants and Postdoctoral Associates

COMMITTEE: Appropriations

DATE: January 21, 2025

POSITION: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

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The University System of Maryland Student Councils(USMSC) represents over 170,000 undergraduate and graduate students across the University System of Maryland's 12 institutions and 3 regional higher education centers. As such, we are in full support of House Bill 207 and its respective crossfile.

Graduate assistants and postdoctoral associates are important members of our academic communities. They facilitate and support the teaching of undergraduate students, drive groundbreaking research, and contribute to the overall success of our institutions. Despite their essential roles, many face significant challenges, including inadequate pay, insufficient benefits, lack of job security, and limited avenues to address workplace concerns.

In light of this, the USMSC also urges consideration of amendments or separate legislation to extend similar protections and support to faculty, including part-time faculty, who often face the same challenges.

For these reasons, the University System of Maryland Student Council respectfully requests a **favorable report**, with the aforementioned amendments.

Thank you.

