

Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Brian J. Feldman, Vice Chair
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

SB 521
Supporting

Dear Chair Kelley, Vice Chair Feldman, and Members of the Finance Committee,

As a member of PTK faculty at UMD, and formerly as a Grad TA here, I have engaged in numerous, failed efforts to win bargaining rights for PTK and GA employees in this state. We need them because we unprotected, at-will employees.

For example: During Covid, like many others, I have worked many many hours each week over what would be considered a FT work week. But our contracts do not protect us from this. No one will pay us for this, or even thank us in particular. But unlike tenured, staff, or other regular employees, we get no leave or comp time. My annual,two-semester contracts = one 91/2-month contract. I spent most of my unemployed, UNPAID two and a half summer months in 2020 taking UMD and Zoom training programs to help me increase my online teaching effectiveness. I SHOULD NOT HAVE NEEDED TO SPEND THIS TIME AS AN UNPAID VOLUNTEER! UMD has no way to provide me comp time or pay for this.

Like GA students in this state, PTK staff need union representation too.

Sincerely,

Laura Suzanne Gordon
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