

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,

The United States has the most impressive model for scientific advancement in the world. The work is done by droves of brilliant people - graduate students. We pay them next to nothing. That's part of what keeps innovation cost effective. However, given the tremendous contribution graduate students make, all of them should at least be able to make enough money to get their basic needs met. I spend 74% of my take-home pay on rent. Graduate students aren't asking for fortunes, but they should be able to afford to eat.

This is not a Covid-19 related issue, but if the current pandemic helps amplify our voice for equitable compensation, use it.

Sincerely,

Brian Scott
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