

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 ability for graduate workers to advocate for ourselves through collective bargaining is a fundamental step in improving our working conditions. Graduate workers are essential, as universities increasingly rely on us while tenure positions are being removed. Because positions in our academic fields are disappearing, there has never been a more pertinent time for graduate students to participate in collective bargaining: we do this not only to help preserve our safety, security, and livelihood, but we also do this to help the next generation of graduate students who face an even more challenging future in the world of academia. Collective bargaining would lay the groundwork for the future of academia: if we want to retain talent and ensure high quality university education for the next generation, the right to collective bargaining is not only necessary, but urgent.

Sincerely,

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