Delores G. Kelley, Chair Brian J. Feldman, Vice Chair 3 East Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401 SB 118 Supporting

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

I have worked as a graduate student assistant at both the University of Maryland and the University of Wisconsin. My pay from both institutions was about the same, but the cost of living in the DC metro area is dramatically higher than it is in Wisconsin. The right to collectively bargain is an important tool to ensure graduate assistants receive appropriate compensation for their labor and, most significantly, a living wage.

Sincerely,

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