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 believe that caring for graduate students is actually caring for the future of the public university. If we are expected to become faculty or staff at institutions around the country (or world) why wouldn't we expect to be treated with respect at the beginning of our careers. As we see more collective bargaining agreements, I believe that there is a lot of professional development that is missed when graduate students aren't a part of a collective bargaining unit. I want to go forward in my career fighting for the rights of staff and employees and I believe that starts with a collective bargaining unit at UMD.

Sincerely,

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