

**Written Testimony Submitted to the
Maryland House Appropriations Committee
By Linda D. Green MD, Physician
HB 493**

**State Personnel - Collective Bargaining - Faculty, Part-Time Faculty, and Graduate Assistants
February 9, 2024**

FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the House Appropriations Committee,

My name is Dr. Linda Green and I am a retired physician who trained medical residents at Prince George's Hospital which is now part of UMMS. I call on this committee to issue a favorable report to this Bill. The state already grants the right of collective bargaining towards nearly every other state employee, as well as the faculty at our community colleges and the non-academic workforce at our four-year institutions. It is clear that this right should be extended to all higher ed workers in Maryland.

Over the years that I taught internal medicine I often collaborated with the School of Public Health at the University of Maryland in research projects. My medical students and residents benefitted from the expertise of the scientists in public health to publish on our Hepatitis C experience. The study on Hepatitis C and Kidney Disease was presented at the national nephrology meetings and my resident is now a practicing nephrologist. Work with the demographics and follow up of opiod users was also very important to our work. Due to the limited resources of our hospital at the time we could not have advanced our research without the support of the University faculty. Much of their effort was voluntary work with minimal if any compensation. Their willingness to support the work of young doctors serving an underserved community was commendable.

Collective bargaining will improve the salary and working conditions of the faculty and graduate students to continue to serve our community. I saw first hand how busy they were and was grateful for any time they could donate to our work. Supporting community efforts is undervalued in their current job situations. Bringing these issues to the table will benefit all of us. For these reasons I urge the members of the committee to report out a favorable response to this bill.

Sincerely,
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*This testimony has been submitted on behalf of this individual by the University of Maryland Graduate Labor Union (GLU) and the Chapter of the American Association of University Professors (UMD AAUP).
Please contact us at mail@umdgradworkers.org or umdaaup@gmail.com if you have any questions.*