

**Written Testimony Submitted to the  
Maryland Senate Finance Committee  
By Jermain McDermott, Teaching Assistant  
SB0823**

**State Personnel - Collective Bargaining - Faculty, Part-Time Faculty, and Graduate Assistants  
March 7, 2024  
FAVORABLE**

Dear Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Klausmeier, and members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Jermain McDermott and I am a teaching assistant at the University of Maryland at College Park in the Department of Mathematics where I have worked for 6 years. 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. We need to democratize the work environment, the people deserve a say in how things are run.

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 [info@umdgradworkers.org](mailto:info@umdgradworkers.org) or [umdaaup@gmail.com](mailto:umdaaup@gmail.com) if you have any questions.*