

**Written Testimony Submitted to the
Maryland House Appropriations Committee
By Alex Bennett
HB0661
State Personnel - Collective Bargaining - Faculty
March 4, 2025
FAVORABLE**

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

I am a resident of Maryland and alumnus of College Park. I implore the committee to advance this bill. Now more than ever, it is vitally important for job security, essential benefits, and living wages to be guaranteed for all working people through binding contracts. There is no coherent reason to restrict certain employees of higher education institutions from collective bargaining while community college faculty and the non-academic workers at four-year schools enjoy this basic right. It is unconscionable to me that any of the wonderful teachers who educated me as an undergraduate would still be treated as lesser than some of their colleagues today. Please take the first step in righting this wrong by issuing a favorable report on this bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alex Bennett
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This testimony has been submitted on behalf of this individual by the United Academics of Maryland.