Dear Harvard University Administration,

As members of the Greater Boston and Massachusetts community, we are calling upon the Harvard University administration to bargain in good faith for a fair contract with HGSU-UAW Local 5118 after seven months of negotiations. We stand in solidarity with the Harvard student workers as they demand fair compensation that adequately reflects the cost of living and inflation, real protections against all forms of discrimination and harassment, and an agency shop through which all student workers can build a strong and sustainable union. The University has also been charged with two unfair labor practices. We call on the administration to take all measures possible to bargain in good faith and agree to a fair contract before the workers are forced to strike on October 27th.

Harvard could not function without the labor of student workers. It relies upon them to educate its students, assist its faculty, and produce research that is integral to the university’s reputable global standing. Moreover, throughout the pandemic, student workers have proven essential to the university’s continued operation. By refusing to agree to a fair contract, Harvard is demonstrating its lack of concern for the issues central to its student workers’ personal and collective dignity and well-being. Harvard’s graduate student workers deserve to join every other union on Harvard’s campus with an agency shop provision included in their contract and access to neutral third-party grievance and arbitration for all cases of harassment and discrimination. Additionally, they deserve to have majority third-party hearing panels in the decision-making process for Title IX cases, as well as access to financial assistance for lawyers in these cases. Unless the university recognizes the demands of its student workers, they will have no option but to withhold their labor from an employer who refuses to negotiate for fair pay, union security, and real recourse for survivors of harassment and discrimination.

We will stand with Harvard’s student workers as they stand on the picket line. We support HGSU’s strike action and call upon the administration to address their bargaining demands promptly.

Sincerely,

Massachusetts AFL-CIO  BCGEU-UAW  GEO UMass Boston-UAW Local 1596  GEO UMass Lowell-UAW Local 1596  GEO UMass Amherst-UAW 2322  NOLSW-UAW Local 2320  Teamsters Local 122  AFSCME Council 93  Boston Teachers Union, AFT Local 66  Massachusetts Nurses Association  IUE-CWA Local 201  UNITE HERE New England Joint Board
Boston Workers Circle: Center for Jewish Culture & Social Justice
David Kowalski, President- Labor Guild
Emerson Staff Union- SEIU 888
Graduate Employees Organization, AFT Local 3550
IATSE Local 11
Massachusetts Alliance for Retired Americans
National Lawyers Guild- Harvard Law School Chapter
Progressive Massachusetts
SEIU 32BJ
Teamsters Joint Council 10
Teamsters Local 25
UAW Local 2121
UAW Local 2322
UAW Local 2324
UAW Local 4123- Academic Student Workers at California State University
United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1445
UW-Madison TAA/AFT Local 3220

Sumbul Siddiqui- Cambridge Councilmember
Cambridge City
Jivan Sobrinho Wheeler- Cambridge City Councilmember
Denise Simmons- Cambridge Councilmember
Lydia Edwards- Boston City Councilor, District 1
Patricia Nolan- Cambridge City Councilmember
Quinton Zondervan- Cambridge City Councilmember
Kenzie Bok- Boston City Councilor, District 5
Tim Toomey- Cambridge City Councilmember
Marc McGovern- Cambridge City Councilmember
Alanna Mallon- Cambridge City Councilmember
Jivan Sobrinho Wheeler- Cambridge City Councilmember
Lydia Edwards- Boston City Councilor, District 1
Ricardo Arroyo- Boston City Councilor, District 2
Frank Baker- Boston City Councilor, District 3
Michelle Wu- Boston City Councilor At-Large

Michael F. Flaherty-Boston City Councilor At-Large
Liz Bredon- Boston City Councilor, District 9
Julia Mejia- Boston City Councilor At-Large
Ed Flynn- Boston City Councilor, District 2
Annissa Essaibi-George- Boston City Councilor At-Large
Andrea J. Campbell- Boston City Councilor, District 4
Matt O’Malley- Boston City Council President Pro Tem
Nevena Pilipovic-Wengler  Acer Xu  Keila Franks  
Tosin Olayinka  Jennifer Sheehy Skeffington  Chloe Wetzel  
Alex Ropes  Becca Frankel  Junwon Jang  
Alex Brown  Nicole Piepenbrink  Dan Kramer  
Colette Midulla  David Lewis  Esther Tzau  
Samantha Nagler  Jon Green  Shoshana Lovett-Graff  
Emilie Montgomery  Taylor Woods  Joyce Kim  
Fjora Arapi  Alex Meredith  Chantal Sanchez  
Rushi Shah  Azani Creeks  Elizabeth Poulos  
Oliver Green  Alex Johnson  Katherine Scheidt  
Beth Huang  Kindle Williams  Nathan  
Karry Muzzyey  Martha Durkee-Neuman  Amanda Campbell  
Riccardo Racicot  Katie Walsh  David Bonner  
Jordan Berg Powers  Sheriden Thomas  Love Karlsson  
Warren Hinckle  Menghe Xu  Ángela Fonseca Galvis  
Marshall Wilson  Jessica Bozek  Katie Mika  
Rachel Bergman  Laurie LaPorte  Spike Sommers  
Susan Masten  Emma MacKenzie  Kristy Henrich Klein  
Peter D Carey II  Elsa Kunz  Sophia Mo  
Mandy Zhou  Nathalie Folkerts  Jennifer Allison  
Adam Mazeika  Virginia Schilder  Francesca Rubinson  
Miguel de Icaza  Haley Griese  Alessandra Seiter  
Ilan Erez  Ezra Levine  Anu Gupte  
Hiren Lami  Jo Venditelli  Eilaf Farajalla  
Eneda Kulla  Tracie L Palmer  Colin Kim  
Benjamin Hintzman  Liem Nguyen  Cynthia Deng  
Crystal Steltenpohl  Ben Davidson  Monique Lanier  
William Lohier  Maisie Luo  Ashley Ortiz Rivera  
Sanjam Chhabra  Amaia Cook  David Braverman  
                      Joseph Noszek  Danielle Antonellis