



Patriots Technology Training Center  
5800 Martin Luther King Jr. Highway  
Seat Pleasant, MD 20743

February 25, 2020

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh  
Chair, House Appropriations Committee  
MD General Assembly  
Room 121  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: **HB 715** State Finance and Procurement - Prohibited Appropriations - Magnetic Levitation Transportation System

POSITION: **OPPOSE**

Dear Chair McIntosh, Vice Chair Jackson, and members of the committee,

As President of the Patriots Technology Training Center, I am writing to express our organization's strong opposition to **HB 715**.

For 22 years Patriots' mission has been "empowering students through technology". Our goal is to increase the number of 5th to 12th grade students entering into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), ultimately leading to a college education and career paths in these fields. Our various programs, camps, seminars, and activities serve to introduce youth to tomorrow's careers.

The Northeast Maglev project represents the pinnacle of opportunity for today's youth. The influx of high tech construction and operations jobs, with stations located in Baltimore, DC, and at BWI, will provide tremendous opportunity for our youth - opportunity to be part of the most advanced transportation system in the world. Once

the project is complete, ultimately connecting major metropolitan areas of the Northeast Corridor, today's youth will continue to benefit with easy access to opportunities along the entire route.

We also recognize that a project like this will benefit businesses and people beyond the Baltimore/Washington region. It represents job, business and development opportunities, and community growth for millions along the Northeast Corridor. This project represents a future with less pollution, traffic, and with an emphasis on clean, efficient transportation and transit-oriented development. For the youth we serve, we want to be a part of this future.

HB 715 is a clear attempt to stop this project, and in effect stifle opportunity for today's youth and for future generations. Opportunity for careers, economic development, access, and a cleaner environment.

Please submit an unfavorable report on this nearsighted bill.

Sincerely,

Thurman Jones,  
President