

March 5, 2020

**OPPOSE** 

Delegate Kumar P. Barve, Chairman Environment and Transportation 251 House Office Building 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

## Re: HOUSE BILL 1238 – TRANSPORTATION – MAGNETIC LEVITATION PROJECTS – REQUIREMENTS.

Dear Chairman Barve and Committee Members:

I am writing to outline the strong opposition of the Maryland Transportation Builders & Materials Association (MTBMA) to House Bill 1238. As the voice of the transportation construction and materials industries in Maryland, MTBMA advocates for Maryland's transportation needs, fosters positive partnerships with government agencies and officials, consulting engineers, and other industry groups, promotes safety in our industry, including a safe environment for our workforce and the traveling public, supports sound environmental practices, and maintains high quality standards for our products and projects.

HB 1238 is a solution in search of a problem. It is an attempt to block, not only a potential source of thousands of transportation construction jobs and other opportunities for our members, but a potential source of public good for many Marylanders and ultimately the residents, businesses, and more along our nation's Northeast Corridor. MTBMA considers the SCMaglev project as the type of transportation project that not only represents opportunities for our industry, but represents forward thinking, a cleaner environment, and transformational opportunities for millions along the Northeast Corridor.

Additionally, the Federal Environmental Impact Statement process already addresses the concerns of this legislation. Baltimore Washington Rapid Rail has been working hand-in-hand with over thirty Federal, State, and Local agencies in a lengthy process being led by the Federal Railroad Administration.

Approval of the proposed legislation would interfere with the established processes upon which all large-scale infrastructure projects rely, and introduce unnecessary requirements would be tantamount to stopping the SCMAGLEV project.

For the above reasons, we ask that you not stand in the way of the public good and submit an unfavorable report.

Thank you,

Michael A Selala

Michael Sakata President and CEO Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association