



[Date] January 17, 2024

SB00079

The Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and
Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office
Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Senate Education, Energy, and the
Environment Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: **SB0079** State Finance and Procurement - Prohibited Appropriations - Magnetic Levitation Transportation System

POSITION: **OPPOSE**

Dear Chair Guzzone, Chair Feldman, and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation and Education, Energy, and the Environment Committees,

The Waldorf Business Association promotes the establishment, growth, prosperity and retention of businesses within Charles County, Maryland and works with entities that share our values. In furtherance of our mission, I am proud to submit this letter to endorse the MAGLEV train project and encourage you and your committee to oppose Bill 00079. MAGLEV has committed to ensuring access to billions of dollars in contract opportunities for women- and minority-owned businesses through its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan.

The MAGLEV presents the safest train technology in the world. After decades of use, Japan's trains have resulted in zero onboard passenger fatalities. Bringing this innovative mode of transportation to the region will not only present thousands of promising jobs, provide for a diverse workforce, but is an overall an investment in prioritizing the health and safety of employees and, ultimately, passengers.

Our members are attracted to the economic security, safety, and prosperity that the MAGLEV project presents, and we urge your full support in advancing this project to enhance the well-being of the state's workforce and of the general public.

MAGLEV is not asking, and has pledged not to ask, for state funds in developing the project. This means SB0079 is a bad solution to a non-existent problem.

At this time, I ask that the committee submits an unfavorable report on this bill.

Sincerely,

Dexter Bordes,
President, Waldorf Business Association