



**Eastern Atlantic States**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

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TESTIMONY

POSITION: OPPOSE / UNFAVORABLE

**HB63, State Finance - Prohibited Appropriations - Magnetic Levitation Transportation System**

House Environment and Transportation Committee

Dear Honorable Delegates:

On behalf of the Eastern Atlantic Regional Council of Carpenters (EASRCC), our 41,000 of the most skilled construction workers and apprentices in the nation, and including some 3,000 carpenters right here in the State of Maryland, please accept this letter in strong opposition to HB63.

We are extremely thankful for President Obama's award of \$27.8 million, through the FRA, to conduct the necessary Environmental Impact Study for this project, which is currently ongoing. If this legislation passes, however, that money would have been spent in vain, and the benefits of this project could never be realized.

We strongly support the MAGLEV project for the following reasons:

- 74,000 jobs related to construction
- Union Labor apprenticeships, training, career development
- Over 1500 permanent high skill jobs (many located in Baltimore with a station and MAGLEV maintenance facility)
- Thousands of area jobs and opportunities in related and supporting industries
- Contract opportunities for local businesses
- Huge opportunity for transit-oriented development
- \$6.5 billion increase in GDP from construction, \$268 million annually from operations
- Environmental benefits mean cleaner air for all

The language in this bill was drafted to make it impossible to construct any part of a MAGLEV project anywhere in Prince George's County, effectively stopping the project in its tracks. By passing a law like this, you would effectively prevent the residents of this state from seeing any of the above benefits of the project.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that this honorable committee give this legislation an UNFAVORABLE committee report.