

HB1103_Dr. Arline L. Bronzaft_FAVORABLE

Arline L. Bronzaft, Ph.D., Professor Emerita, City University of New York. I conduct research, write and lecture on the adverse effects of noise on mental and physical health. I have written broadly on noise including chapters in environmental books and encyclopedias, articles in academic journals and writings for the popular press. My research on the effects of noise on children's learning are considered the landmark studies in the field. In New York City I serve on the Board of GrowNYC (appointed by five NYC Mayors), overseeing its activities to reduce noise pollution.

I am here today to offer testimony in support of the Maryland Aviation Infrastructure Impacts Commission bills. I do not believe I need to elaborate on the literature linking noise, including aircraft noise, to adverse mental and physical health effects. Research is plentiful, as indicated in one of my writings, but the policies that should flow from this research are still sadly lacking (<https://www.scirp.org/journal/PaperInformation.aspx?PaperID=76120>). The Maryland Aviation Infrastructure Impacts Commission will undoubtedly familiarize itself with the research and apply this knowledge to set up policies that will indeed lessen the deleterious impacts of aircraft noise on health.

In April 1976, former EPA Administrator Russell E. Train delivered a talk entitled "Aviation Noise: Let's get on with the job" to the Inter-Noise '76 Conference in Washington. He said the following: "It is time for all to come together, and to come to grips with the problem of aviation noise, and to build, at long last, an air transportation system that is safe, healthy and quieter. We have simply lacked the will to do it. Let's get on with the job."

Administrator Train spoke in 1976. It is now 2022. The research linking noise to deleterious health effects is stronger and the ways to lessen aircraft noise are more plentiful. However, unfortunately the will is still lacking. Passing the proposed legislation will say loud and clear – we have the will to "get on with the job."