



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

Senator Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 9th, 2022

RE: Senate Bill 359 – UNFAVORABLE – State Finance – Prohibited Appropriations – Magnetic Levitation Transportation System

Dear Chair Guzzone, Chair Pinsky and Members of the Committees:

The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association (“MTBMA”) has been and continues to serve as the voice for Maryland’s construction transportation industry since 1932. Our association is comprised of 200 members. MTBMA encourages, develops, and protects the prestige of the transportation construction and materials industry in Maryland by establishing and maintaining respected relationships with federal, state, and local public officials.

The SCMaglev project is the type of transportation project that not only represents jobs for our workers, but represents forward thinking, a cleaner environment, and transformational opportunities for millions along the Northeast Corridor. This legislation 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, but a potential source of opportunity and public good for so many.

Baltimore Washington Rapid Rail has been working hand-in-hand with over thirty Federal, State, and Local agencies in the years long process being led by the Federal Railroad Administration. To layer over this established process with a prohibition for “any public or private company that receives money from state from authorizing a permit or any other form of approval for Maglev in the state” would be tantamount to stopping the SCMAGLEV project and put in question the legal framework upon which all large-scale infrastructure projects rely.

We thank you for your time and consideration of this bill and we ask for an UNFAVORABLE report on Senate Bill 359.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Sakata", is written over a faint, light blue circular watermark or stamp.

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association