



**GREATER BALTIMORE BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
(GBBCC)**

February 9, 2022

SB 359

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

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

**RE: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 359—STATE FINANCE – PROHIBITED
APPROPRIATIONS – MAGNETIC LEVITATION TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**

Dear Chair Guzzone, Chair Pinsky, and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation and
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committees:

I am writing to outline our **strong opposition to SB 359**.

I serve as the President of the Greater Baltimore Black Chamber of Commerce and, we have
earned a well-deserved reputation as a voice for growth in Black Business Community. Through
our aggressive pursuit of a healthy economic climate for business and an improved quality of life
for members, our mission is to advance the interests of business and help close the wealth gap
for Black Businesses in the Greater Baltimore. This proposed legislation serves to stand against
our core goals, and against our mission.

This legislation only serves to send a message to the world that Maryland does not want to be
part of a future where we finally begin to move beyond constantly building and expanding
highways.

Maglev technology represents a future with less pollution, traffic, and with an emphasis on
clean, efficient, and equitable transportation and transit-oriented development. We believe that
the State of Maryland should be a part of this future.

1401 Severn Street

Baltimore, MD 21230

443-424-2201

This bill is an attempt to needlessly block a potential for growth and opportunity for so many, and we ask that you submit an unfavorable report. We recommend that the Maryland General Assembly not set a precedent by using legislation on behalf of a few to unfairly limit a potential good for many.

Sincerely,

Kendrick Tilghman

President
Greater Baltimore Black Chamber of Commerce