

## Executive Board

### President & Chairman of the Board

Marco V. Ávila, P.E.

**WSP**

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**C.M. Services**

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Jose Montes de Oca

**Brown Advisory**

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**Adaptive Business Solutions**

### Executive Director

María Pílar Rodríguez

**MPR Business Solutions, LLC**

## Board of Directors

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Jose Montes de Oca

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Margia Arguello

Carlos Juan (CJ) Santos

Ana Gonzales

Ana Karina Rodriguez

Carmen Zuñiga

Allen Gutierrez

Daniel J. Trujillo Esmeral

Carlos Martinez

## Committee Members

Jose Montes de Oca – *By-Laws*

*Newsletter-Webmaster*

Gigi Guzman (*BAM/Grants*)

Margia Arguello (*Scholarships*)

Marco V. Avila (*Golf*)

Ana Gonzalez (*Memberships*)

Carmen Zuñiga (*Sponsorships*)

Giovanni Delfino (*Marketing*)

Carlos Juan (CJ) Santos (*Gov-*

*Affairs*)

Alex Zunca (*Sister State Program*)

Ana K. Rodriguez (*Special Events*)

**Vacant (*8a Program*)**

**Vacant (*Strategic Partnerships*)**

**Vacant (*Special Projects*)**

## REGIONAL COMMITTEES

**Capital Region** (*Giovanni Delfino*)

**Western Region** (*Sila Alegret-Bartel*)

**GB-Region** (*Marco*)

**Southern Region** (**Vacant**)

**Eastern Shore Region** (**Vacant**)

### Immediate Past Chairman

Jorge Eduardo Castillo

### Ex-Oficio

Luis Borunda

Roger Campos

Marcie Castañeda

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:

On behalf of the hundreds of member businesses of the Maryland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and thousands of employees in Montgomery County, this letter is in Opposition to SB0359 - State Finance – Prohibited Appropriations – Magnetic Levitation - Transportation System.

This legislation has not changed from prior appearances before this committee and should receive a similar fate. Passage of this obstructionist legislation would make a strong statement about Maryland – that State leadership is closed to innovation.

We believe the State and the region should be open to any and all ideas that seek to ameliorate our pressing problem of congestion, which threatens our economy's growth on a daily basis.

Let's stop putting up barriers to progress. Our local businesses certainly will not benefit from such a position. Large scale investments in our state should be encouraged as they provide substantial jobs and enhancement to the economic health of our business community.

We ask you to please vote UNFAVORABLE on this short-sighted bill which reflects the lack of long-range planning for our community's future and that of the State. Thank you for your consideration of our remarks.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Marco V. Ávila, P.E.

Chairman of the Board & President

Maryland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

