



February 9, 2022

SB 359

The Honorable Guy Guzzone

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky

Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation
Committee

Chair, Senate Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs Committee

3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

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 .

Even as one of the newest chambers of commerce in Maryland and in the Washington Metropolitan region, we have earned a well-deserved reputation as a voice for growth in Prince George’s County. Through our aggressive pursuit of a healthy economic climate for business and an improved quality of life for County residents, our mission is to advance the interests of business and help create wealth for a vibrant Prince George’s County.

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 Prince George's County, and the State of Maryland should be a part of this future.

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,

Jerry McLaurin

President

PFC Black Chamber of Commerce

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