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MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



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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 Asphalt Association is comprised of 18 producer members representing more than 47 production facilities, 24 contractor members, 24 consulting engineer firms and 41 other associate members. We proactively work with regulatory agencies to represent the interests of the asphalt industry both in the writing and interpretation of state and federal regulations that may affect our members. We also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

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,

Marshall Klinefelter
President
Maryland Asphalt Association