



MARYLAND
Chamber of Commerce

LEGISLATIVE POSITION:

Unfavorable

House Bill 326

State Finance - Prohibited Appropriations - Magnetic Levitation Transportation System

House Environment & Transportation Committee

Thursday, February 17, 2022

Dear Chairman Barve and Members of the Committee:

Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 5,500 members and federated partners working to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic recovery and growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

House Bill 326 would create significant barriers for public and private investment in the construction of a magnetic levitation (maglev) transportation system connecting Washington, D.C., and Baltimore. The legislation would render any maglev project impossible to construct.

The Chamber believes that improved state transportation networks boost economic opportunity, and we work to advance short- and long-term solutions to statewide transit needs. A privately owned maglev line would create jobs, generate new economic activity and transform Maryland into a leader in 21st-century transportation solutions.

Also, increased transit options would dramatically reduce commute times, thereby increasing productivity and unleashing new opportunities for businesses statewide. Enhanced options for Maryland commuters would also lessen the state's carbon footprint by reducing use of state highways.

For these reasons, the Chamber respectfully requests an **unfavorable report** on HB 326.

MDCHAMBER.ORG

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