



THEME: UNMUTE & REBOOT

GREATER BALTIMORE CHAPTER
601 N. Eutaw Street | Baltimore, MD 21201

January 25, 2023

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

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Senate Education, Energy,
and the Environment Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB0050 —STATE FINANCE – PROHIBITED APPROPRIATIONS –
MAGNETIC LEVITATION TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Dear Chair Guzzone, Chair Feldman, and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation and Education, Energy, and the Environment Committees,

As vice president of the National Action Network's Greater Baltimore Chapter, I am writing to express our organization's strong opposition to SB0050.

As one of the leading civil rights organizations in the nation, we fight for one standard of justice and equal opportunities for all people regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, citizenship, criminal record, economic status, gender, gender expression, or sexuality.

Not only would the SCMAGLEV project bring unprecedented economic opportunity to our region, but the team behind the project has committed to diverse, equitable and inclusive project development. The team has worked extensively with South Baltimore communities to establish trust-based communication and is committed to facilitating equitable transit-oriented development. This project represents the exact type of opportunity the National Action Network fights for daily. Preemptively removing the ability for Maryland citizens to invest in innovative technology that has the capacity to drastically improve the lives of many sends a clear message to citizens that their voices, time, energy, and future don't matter.

I strongly urge the committee to consider the long-lasting implications that this bill will have on future technological investment within the state. Not only does this bill represent the dismissal of Maryland voices, but it is also incredibly short-sighted, as it curtails the future of all potential maglev projects.

Furthermore, it is worth repeating that the company behind the SCMAGLEV has pledged to not request appropriations and they haven't received any.

We ask for an unfavorable report on SB0050 to keep Maryland's future bright for all of our hardworking citizens.

Sincerely,

Gerald Stansbury

Gerald Stansbury
Vice President for State Legislative Advocacy
Greater Baltimore Chapter National Action Network

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