



**GREATER BALTIMORE BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
(GBBCC)**

**RE: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HB0106 – STATE FINANCE – PROHIBITED
APPROPRIATIONS – MAGNETIC LEVITATION TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**

Dear Chair Barve, Chair Barnes, and Members of the House Environment & Transportation and Appropriations Committees,

As a long-standing community partner, the focus of the Greater Baltimore Black Chamber of Commerce is on the facilitation and creation of business opportunities and resources for black-owned businesses, fostering business growth that results in increased employment of city residents, reinvestment in, and sustainability of predominantly African American communities - this bill stands in the way of the type of progress we stand for.

This bill will limit the State's ability to ever invest in any magnetic levitation transportation technology.

As important as the greater Baltimore region is to us, we recognize that a project like this represents more than just the Baltimore area. It represents job opportunities, business opportunities, and community growth and development opportunities for millions along the Northeast Corridor. It represents a future with less pollution, traffic, and with an emphasis on clean, efficient transportation and transit-oriented development. We want to 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 Legislature let the normal regulatory and legal processes in place work unimpeded, and not set a precedent by using legislation on behalf of a few to unfairly limit a potential good for many.

Sincerely,

Kendrick Tilghman
President
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