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February 19, 2024

HB0170

The Honorable Mark Korman
Chair, House Environment and
Transportation Committee
251 Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Regina T. Boyce
Vice Chair, House Environment and,
Transportation Committee
251 Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis , MD 21401

**RE: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HB0170 —STATE FINANCE – PROHIBITED
APPROPRIATIONS – MAGNETIC LEVITATION TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**

Dear Chair Guzzone, Chair Feldman, and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation and Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committees:

As president of Patriots Technology Training Center, I am writing to express our organization's strong **opposition to HB0170**.

For over 25 years, our organization's mission has been to empower students through technology by encouraging students to enter promising education and career paths in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

The Patriots Technology Training Center has served thousands of students in the region through our countless programs, camps, workshops, conferences, and partnerships. We know which projects hold promise for today's (and tomorrow's) youth, and which projects don't. Northeast Maglev represents this promise, and with stations and headquarters in accessible, central locations to Maryland schools and universities, this project holds great potential for our younger generations to be a part of the most advanced transportation system in the world. Our students will have the ability to learn within an extremely unique technological pipeline.

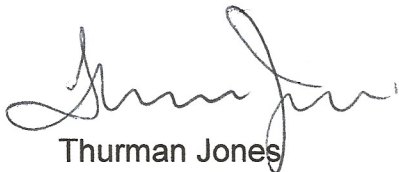
Further, we recognize that a project like the SCMAGLEV will benefit businesses and citizens far beyond the Baltimore-Washington region. It represents development and

community growth for millions along the Northeast Corridor. It symbolizes a future with less pollution and more transit-oriented development.

HB0170 is a clear attempt to stop the SCMAGLEV. But this legislation will not just negatively impact Northeast Maglev. It will ultimately stifle the opportunity for our future generations to benefit from promising career paths and apprenticeships, economic development, and a cleaner environment.

The Patriots Technology Training Center cannot support HB0170 as it proposes direct negative impacts on the state's current students and future leaders. We ask that you please submit an unfavorable report on this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thurman Jones".

Thurman Jones
President/Founder 1997