



"Empowering Students Through Technology"

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January 27, 2021

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

RE: **SB0188** State Finance and Procurement - Prohibited Appropriations - Magnetic Levitation Transportation System

POSITION: **OPPOSE**

Dear Chairman Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Members of the Committee:

As President of the Patriots Technology Training Center, I am writing to express our organization's strong opposition to **SB0188**.

For 25 years Patriots' mission has been "*Empowering Students Through Technology*". Our goal is to increase the number of 5th to 12th grade students entering into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), ultimately leading to a college education and career paths in these fields. Our various programs, camps, workshops, competitions, conferences, and activities serve to introduce youth to tomorrow's careers.

The Northeast Maglev project represents the pinnacle of opportunity for today's youth. The influx of high tech construction and operations jobs, with stations located in Baltimore, DC, and at BWI, will provide tremendous opportunity for our youth - opportunity to be part of the most advanced transportation system in the world. Once the project is complete, ultimately connecting major metropolitan areas of the Northeast Corridor, today's youth will continue to benefit with easy access to opportunities along the entire route.

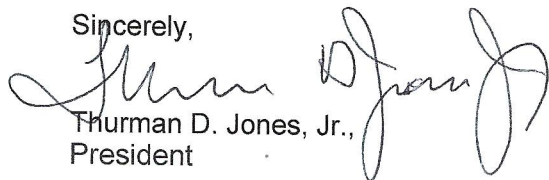
We also recognize that a project like this will benefit businesses and people beyond the Baltimore/Washington region. It represents job, business and development opportunities, and community growth for millions along the Northeast Corridor. This project represents a future with less pollution, traffic, and with an emphasis on clean, efficient transportation and transit-oriented development. For the youth we serve, we want to be a part of this future.

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MD General Assembly
Page 2

SB0188 is a clear attempt to stop this project, and in effect stifle opportunity for today's youth and for future generations for careers, economic development, access, and a cleaner environment.

Please submit an unfavorable report on this nearsighted bill.

Sincerely,



Thurman D. Jones, Jr.,
President