CHAPTER ______

AN ACT concerning

9–1–1 Emergency Telephone System – Multiple–Line Telephone Systems – Direct Dial
(Kari’s Law)

FOR the purpose of requiring that, on or before a certain date, a person that installs or operates a multiple–line telephone system ensures that the system is connected to the public switched telephone network in such a way that an individual dialing 9–1–1 is connected to the public safety answering point without requiring the individual to dial any other number or set of numbers; providing a certain exception for a unit of the Executive Branch of State government; defining a certain term; and generally relating to access to the 9–1–1 emergency telephone system and multiple–line telephone systems.

BY adding to

Article – Public Safety
Section 1–314
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2011 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.
Strike-out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.
SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Public Safety

1–314.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “MULTIPLE–LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM” MEANS A SYSTEM THAT:

    (1) CONSISTS OF COMMON CONTROL UNITS, TELEPHONE SETS, CONTROL HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE, AND ADJUNCT SYSTEMS, INCLUDING NETWORK AND PREMISES–BASED SYSTEMS; AND

    (2) IS DESIGNED TO AGGREGATE MORE THAN ONE INCOMING VOICE COMMUNICATION CHANNEL FOR USE BY MORE THAN ONE TELEPHONE.

(B) (1) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2015, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2017, A PERSON THAT INSTALLS OR OPERATES A MULTIPLE–LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM SHALL ENSURE THAT THE SYSTEM IS CONNECTED TO THE PUBLIC SWITCHED TELEPHONE NETWORK IN SUCH A WAY THAT WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL USING THE SYSTEM DIALS 9–1–1, THE CALL CONNECTS TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT WITHOUT REQUIRING THE USER TO DIAL ANY OTHER NUMBER OR SET OF NUMBERS.

    (2) A UNIT OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF STATE GOVERNMENT SHALL COMPLY WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION ON THE DATE THAT THE MULTIPLE–LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM OF THE UNIT IS NEXT UPGRADED.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2015.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.