

# SENATE BILL 285

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CF HB 634

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By: Senators Kagan and Middleton, Middleton, Zucker, Guzzone, Astle, Benson, Hershey, Jennings, Klausmeier, Mathias, Oaks, Reilly, and Rosapepe

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2018

Assigned to: Finance

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: February 16, 2018

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission to Advance Next Generation 9-1-1 Across Maryland -**  
3 **Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission to Advance Next Generation 9-1-1 Across  
5 Maryland; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Commission;  
6 authorizing the Emergency Number Systems Board to contract with a third-party  
7 contractor for a certain purpose; prohibiting a member of the Commission from  
8 receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain  
9 expenses; requiring the Commission to study and make recommendations regarding  
10 certain matters; requiring the Commission to report its preliminary findings and  
11 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain  
12 date; requiring the Commission to report its final findings and recommendations to  
13 the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; authorizing a  
14 jurisdiction to implement NG9-1-1 services before the Commission has submitted  
15 the final report to the Governor and the General Assembly; providing for the  
16 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Commission to Advance Next  
17 Generation 9-1-1 Across Maryland.

18 Preamble

19 WHEREAS, Maryland citizens demand and expect 9-1-1 emergency service to be  
20 reliable and efficient; and

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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.



1 WHEREAS, Communications technologies available to the public and first  
2 responders have substantially outpaced the legacy communications technologies presently  
3 utilized by most public safety answering points in Maryland; and

4 WHEREAS, This lack of modern technology is impacting the ability of the 9–1–1  
5 system to efficiently and effectively provide responses to emergencies; and

6 WHEREAS, Modernizing Maryland’s 9–1–1 system to include new and evolving  
7 capabilities of broadband voice and data communications is essential for the safety and  
8 security of the general public as well as first responders; and

9 WHEREAS, Accelerated implementation of Next Generation 9–1–1 will increase  
10 compatibility with emerging communications trends, enhance the flexibility and reliability  
11 of Maryland’s 9–1–1 system during major incidents, improve emergency response for the  
12 public and emergency responders, and reduce the overall cost of operating systems across  
13 Maryland; and

14 WHEREAS, A statewide strategy has become essential to help guide the transition  
15 and create a common framework for implementation of Next Generation 9–1–1 services;  
16 now, therefore,

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
18 That:

19 (a) There is a Commission to Advance Next Generation 9–1–1 (“NG9–1–1”)  
20 Across Maryland.

21 (b) The Commission consists of the following members:

22 (1) ~~one member~~ two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the  
23 President of the Senate;

24 (2) ~~one member~~ two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the  
25 Speaker of the House;

26 (3) the Secretary of Disabilities, or the Secretary’s designee;

27 ~~(3)~~ (4) the Emergency Numbers Systems Board Executive Director, or the  
28 Executive Director’s designee;

29 ~~(4)~~ (5) the Emergency Numbers Systems Board Chair, or the Chair’s  
30 designee;

31 ~~(5)~~ (6) the Secretary of Information Technology, or the Secretary’s designee;

32 ~~(6)~~ (7) the Maryland Public Service Commission Chair, or the Chair’s  
33 designee;

1           ~~(7)~~ (8) four representatives from county public safety answering points,  
2 appointed by the Maryland Association of Counties;

3           ~~(8)~~ (9) one 9-1-1 public safety telecommunicator, appointed by the  
4 Maryland Association of Counties;

5           ~~(9)~~ (10) two county government representatives, with familiarity with  
6 county purchasing and finances, appointed by the Maryland Association of Counties; and

7           ~~(10)~~ (11) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

8                   (i) one representative from the Eastern Shore Communications  
9 Alliance, familiar with emergency call and message services;

10                   (ii) one representative from the Washington Council of  
11 Governments, familiar with emergency call and message services;

12                   (iii) one representative from the Baltimore Metropolitan Council of  
13 Governments, familiar with emergency call and message services;

14                   (iv) one representative from the Maryland chapter of the National  
15 Emergency Numbers Association, familiar with emergency call and message services;

16                   (v) one representative from the Association of Public-Safety  
17 Communications Officials International Mid-Eastern Chapter, familiar with emergency  
18 call and message services;

19                   (vi) one nonvoting representative from the broadband industry  
20 offering service within Maryland;

21                   ~~(vi)~~ (vii) one nonvoting representative from a local exchange carrier  
22 offering service within Maryland; and

23                   ~~(vii)~~ (viii) one nonvoting representative from the wireless  
24 communications industry offering service within Maryland.

25           (c) The Commission shall elect the chair of the Commission.

26           (d) ~~The Frederick County Council shall provide staff for the Commission~~

27                   (1) The entities represented on the Commission under subsection (b)(3)  
28 through (6) of this section jointly shall provide staff for the Commission.

29                   (2) The Emergency Number Systems Board may contract with a third  
30 party to provide staff for the Commission under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

1 (e) A member of the Commission:

2 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

3 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
4 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

5 (f) The Commission shall study and make recommendations regarding:

6 (1) the implementation, management, operation, and ongoing development  
7 of NG9-1-1 emergency communication services;

8 (2) the current statutory and regulatory framework for the management  
9 and funding of the 9-1-1 system within the State;

10 (3) federal, State, and local authorities, agencies, and governing bodies  
11 whose participation and cooperation will be necessary for the implementation of NG9-1-1  
12 emergency communication services in the State;

13 (4) any efforts, projects, or initiatives in progress or planned in Maryland  
14 or any other state regarding the implementation of NG9-1-1 emergency communication  
15 services;

16 (5) the costs required to plan, test, implement, manage, and operate  
17 NG9-1-1 technology and services;

18 (6) best practices, policies, and procedures for public safety  
19 telecommunicators; and

20 (7) any other issues the Commission may consider useful in the planning  
21 and implementation of NG9-1-1 emergency communication services in the State.

22 (g) On or before December 1, 2018, the Commission shall submit a preliminary  
23 report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article,  
24 the General Assembly on:

25 (1) the needs, both capital and operating, to bring efficient and effective  
26 NG9-1-1 technology and service across Maryland, and estimated costs required to effect  
27 this priority outcome;

28 (2) the current funding structure for both State and local support for  
29 9-1-1 service and its adequacy in supporting both current service and anticipated next  
30 generation service;

31 (3) comparisons of the current Maryland 9-1-1 fee and additional charge  
32 mechanism under § 1-310 of the Public Safety Article and comparable systems used in  
33 other states;

1 (4) potential changes to the Maryland 9-1-1 fee and additional charge  
2 mechanism, and their estimated effect on the implementation of full-service NG9-1-1  
3 across Maryland;

4 (5) potential statutory or administrative changes to the scope of allowable  
5 uses for grant funding approved through the Emergency Numbers Systems Board, to  
6 promote and ensure ideal support for maintenance, training, and other costs associated  
7 with both the transition to NG9-1-1 service and the continued functions of effective call  
8 centers; ~~and~~

9 (6) other matters related to the financing and procurement of NG9-1-1  
10 across Maryland; and

11 (7) the anticipation and prevention of cybersecurity threats to NG9-1-1  
12 infrastructure.

13 (h) On or before December 1, 2019, the Commission shall submit a final report to  
14 the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the  
15 General Assembly on:

16 (1) the current statutory and regulatory framework for the management  
17 and funding of the 9-1-1 system within the State;

18 (2) the implementation, management, operation, and ongoing development  
19 of NG9-1-1 emergency communication services, during both transition to expanded service  
20 and their permanent sustenance;

21 (3) the ideal role and placement for the Emergency Number Systems Board  
22 within State government to best service its broad and evolving missions;

23 (4) federal, State, and local authorities, agencies, and governing bodies  
24 whose participation and cooperation will be necessary for the implementation of NG9-1-1  
25 emergency communication services in the State;

26 (5) any efforts, projects, or initiatives in progress or planned in Maryland  
27 or any other state regarding the implementation of NG9-1-1 emergency communication  
28 services;

29 (6) best practices, policies, and procedures for public safety  
30 telecommunicators; and

31 (7) any other issues the Commission may consider useful in the planning  
32 and implementation of NG9-1-1 emergency communication services in the State.

1           (i) A jurisdiction may implement NG9-1-1 services before the Commission has  
2 submitted the final report to the Governor and the General Assembly as required by  
3 subsection (h) of this section.

4           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
5 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 1 month and, at the end of June  
6 30, 2020, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be  
7 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.