

Chapter 506

(Senate Bill 47)

AN ACT concerning

Commission to Advance Next Generation 9–1–1 Across Maryland – Extension and Alteration

FOR the purpose of requiring the Commission to Advance Next Generation 9–1–1 Across Maryland to report certain findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; making conforming changes; making certain technical corrections; altering the termination date for the Commission; and generally relating to the Commission to Advance Next Generation 9–1–1 Across Maryland.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Chapter 301 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2018
Section 1 and 2

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Chapter 302 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2018
Section 1 and 2

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Chapter 301 of the Acts of 2018

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

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

(b) The Commission consists of the following members:

(1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

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

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

- (5) the Emergency Numbers Systems Board Chair, or the Chair's designee;
 - (6) the Secretary of Information Technology, or the Secretary's designee;
 - (7) the Maryland Public Service Commission Chair, or the Chair's designee;
 - (8) four representatives from county public safety answering points, appointed by the Maryland Association of Counties;
 - (9) one 9–1–1 public safety telecommunicator, appointed by the Maryland Association of Counties;
 - (10) two county government representatives, with familiarity with county purchasing and finances, appointed by the Maryland Association of Counties; and
 - (11) the following members, appointed by the Governor:
 - (i) one representative from the Eastern Shore Communications Alliance, familiar with emergency call and message services;
 - (ii) one representative from the Washington Council of Governments, familiar with emergency call and message services;
 - (iii) one representative from the Baltimore Metropolitan Council of Governments, familiar with emergency call and message services;
 - (iv) one representative from the Maryland chapter of the National Emergency Numbers Association, familiar with emergency call and message services;
 - (v) one representative from the Association of Public–Safety Communications Officials International Mid–Eastern Chapter, familiar with emergency call and message services;
 - (vi) one nonvoting representative from the broadband industry offering service within Maryland;
 - (vii) one nonvoting representative from a local exchange carrier offering service within Maryland; and
 - (viii) one nonvoting representative from the wireless communications industry offering service within Maryland.
- (c) The Commission shall elect the chair of the Commission.

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

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

(e) A member of the Commission:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(g) On or before December 1, 2018, the Commission shall submit a preliminary report to the Governor and, in accordance with [§ 2-1246] § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on:

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

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

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

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

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

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

(7) the anticipation and prevention of cybersecurity threats to NG9–1–1 infrastructure.

(h) On or before December 1, 2019, the Commission shall submit [a final] AN INTERIM report to the Governor and, in accordance with [§ 2–1246] § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 15, 2020, AND ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 15, 2021, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE PROGRESS TOWARD THE IMPLEMENTATION AND EVOLUTION OF NG9-1-1 SERVICE ACROSS THE STATE, INCLUDING:

(1) A DETERMINATION AS TO WHETHER THE 9-1-1 FEE AND ADDITIONAL CHARGE MECHANISM UNDER § 1-310 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE GENERATE SUFFICIENT REVENUE TO COVER ELIGIBLE EXPENSES FOR BOTH THE STATE AND COUNTIES;

(2) A DETERMINATION AS TO WHETHER THE STATE AND COUNTIES ARE RECEIVING THE FEES IMPOSED UNDER TITLE 1, SUBTITLE 3 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE;

(3) AN EVALUATION OF OPERATIONAL NEEDS OF THE 9-1-1 SYSTEM, INCLUDING OPTIMAL STAFFING LEVELS AND THE NEEDS OF THOSE STAFF;

(4) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POTENTIAL STATUTORY OR ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO PROTECT AGAINST CYBERSECURITY THREATS TO THE 9-1-1 SYSTEM; AND

(5) AN EVALUATION OF THE SATISFACTION OF THE COUNTIES WITH THE ABILITY OF THE CURRENT STATUTORY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND FUNDING OF THE 9-1-1 SYSTEM WITHIN THE STATE TO PROVIDE FOR CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT IN 9-1-1 SERVICE TO MARYLAND RESIDENTS AND VISITORS AND ANY RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THAT FRAMEWORK.

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

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of **[2] 4** years and 1 month and, at the end of June 30, **[2020] 2022**, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Chapter 302 of the Acts of 2018

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SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2020.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 8, 2020.