

Chapter 116

**(House Bill 1080)**

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)

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 by the Governor, April 14, 2015.**