

Chapter 985

(Senate Bill 807)

AN ACT concerning

Somerset County – Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services

FOR the purpose of authorizing the County Commissioners of Somerset County to enact local laws and adopt other measures to manage, direct, and regulate fire, rescue, and emergency medical services in the County; authorizing the County Commissioners to authorize or create an entity or a body to administer the County's affairs in the County relating to fire, rescue, and emergency medical services; requiring the County Commissioners to establish an Emergency Services Advisory Council to make certain recommendations under certain circumstances; and generally relating to fire, rescue, and emergency medical services in Somerset County.

BY adding to

The Public Local Laws of Somerset County
 Section 4–301 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 3. Fire, Rescue, and Emergency
 Medical Services” and the amended title “Title 4. Emergency Services”
 Article 20 – Public Local Laws of Maryland
 (2015 Edition, as amended)

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

Article 20 – Somerset County

Title 4. [Fire Departments and Fire Marshal] **EMERGENCY SERVICES.**

SUBTITLE 3. FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

4–301.

(A) THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY ENACT LOCAL LAWS AND ADOPT OTHER MEASURES NECESSARY TO ADEQUATELY AND APPROPRIATELY MANAGE, DIRECT, AND REGULATE FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE COUNTY.

(B) (1) THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY AUTHORIZE OR CREATE AN ENTITY OR A BODY TO ADMINISTER THE COUNTY'S AFFAIRS RELATING TO FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES WHILE MAINTAINING THE VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICES.

(2) IF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE OR CREATE AN ENTITY OR A BODY UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL ESTABLISH AN EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL TO PROVIDE THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE OPERATIONS OF FIRE SUPPRESSION, EMERGENCY MEDICAL, AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SERVICES IN THE COUNTY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2024.