

State of Maryland Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West
Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairman Pinsky and members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee:

The Association of Continuity Professionals (ACP) - Central Maryland Chapter, strongly supports Senate Bill 81 - State Government - Emergency Management - Continuity Planning. Continuity of Operations and Continuity of Government plans ensure that organizations are prepared to deliver critical services and that key leadership roles are filled when normal operations are otherwise impacted. A functioning State government is not only vitally important for the citizens of Maryland but also businesses that rely on State services to enable their work. Enacting this legislation will solidify Maryland's commitment to its citizens and more broadly commerce.

The ACP is a non-profit trade association dedicated to fostering continued professional growth and development in effective Contingency & Business Resumption Planning. ACP represents the interests of continuity professionals in Maryland and works to build capacity and skills of its members. Senate Bill 81 complements the work of private sector continuity professionals by ensuring that the government can support the needs of citizens and businesses regardless of external impacts. Many businesses in Maryland have full time staff dedicated to Continuity of Operations planning activities. ACP also believes the Maryland Emergency Management Agency is the agency best positioned to lead this effort for State government.

The Association believes this bill will improve the services provided by State government by ensuring uninterrupted delivery of essential tasks throughout emergencies and disasters. ACP believes that Senate Bill 81 will protect lives, safeguard government and businesses, and foster community resilience.

It is for these reasons that we strongly support Senate Bill 81.

Erin Valentine

Erin Valentine, President
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