



**SECULO**RE™  
SOLUTIONS

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**SB714: Public Safety - 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone System - Alterations**  
**Senate Finance Committee**  
**Tuesday, March 9, 2021**

Chair Kelley, Vice Chair Feldman, and Honorable Committee Members:

SecuLore Solutions, LLC is a Maryland-based cybersecurity company focusing on protecting America's most important telephone number, 9-1-1. We protect Public Safety Answering Points, or PSAPs, in 17 states and the District of Columbia. Our clients can't stop providing life-saving services, so neither do we, operating 24x7x365.

Since 2017, it has been my honor to be an advisory member of the Commission to Advance Next Generation 9-1-1 Across Maryland. I have participated as the Commission has modernized and rationalized the system that protects all of us. I urge you to give a favorable reading to SB714.

Among the most important changes this bill provides is ensuring that the Maryland 9-1-1 Board include a representative from the cybersecurity systems in the State. As 9-1-1 moves from copper telephone lines to Voice over IP and servicing requests for equipment are handled on computers, the risk to PSAPs grows. SecuLore has documented 414 separate cyberattacks on state and local governments in all 50 states and the District of Columbia in the last 24 months. Public Safety has been attacked 124 times in that period.

Cybersecurity affects us all. From ransomware, which will cost over \$20 billion in ransom payments in 2021 alone, to advanced persistent threats that continue to grow, we have never been more vulnerable. Cybercriminals especially find government to be a tempting target, both because it tends to be understaffed and because its mission critical nature provide leverage to get paid from a successful attack. As we move to NG911, we must be aware of the threat that malicious hackers pose to our emergency service infrastructure.

This bill recognizes that threat and elevates the profile of cybersecurity in decision-making for spending. We all need emergency response to be safe, effective, and resilient. The 9-1-1 Board has done an admirable job of ensuring that. This bill will give the Board the tools and membership it needs to move to the next stage of deployment for services that will save lives. We urge a favorable report and support on the floor.

Sincerely,  
Sean Scott  
Chief Technical Officer  
Member, Commission to Advance Next Generation 9-1-1 Across Maryland