



Larry Hogan | Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford | Lt. Governor
Russell J. Strickland | Secretary

Written Testimony - SUPPORT - SB633
Public Safety - 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone System - Alterations

Secretary Russell J. Strickland
Maryland Department of Emergency Management
Finance Committee
Hearing Date: 8 MAR 2022

Chairman Delores Kelley
Finance Committee
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 20401

Chairman Kelley,

I write today in **SUPPORT of Senate Bill 633**. Senate Bill 633 builds on several years of 9-1-1 system updates and improvements undertaken by the Maryland General Assembly through the tireless leadership of Senator Kagan. As the new home of the Maryland 9-1-1 Board, the Maryland Department of Emergency Management supports this bill as another step forward in improving the state's 9-1-1 systems and supporting 9-1-1 Specialists as critical links in the emergency services chain.

MDEM is ready to support the Maryland 9-1-1 Board as they undertake some new requirements as identified in this bill. SB633 would require the Maryland 9-1-1 Board to establish procedures for ensuring 9-1-1 Board vacancies are filled efficiently, establish implicit bias training standards, and to determine Public Safety Answering Point compliance with established training standards and requirements.

I appreciate the opportunity to share MDEM's position regarding this bill, and we respectfully request a **favorable report on Senate Bill 633**.

Sincerely,

Russell J. Strickland
Secretary



Larry Hogan | Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford | Lt. Governor
Russell J. Strickland | Acting Secretary

Maryland Department of Emergency Management