



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

**Written Testimony - SUPPORT - HB1105
Public Safety - 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone System - Alterations**

Secretary Russell J. Strickland
Maryland Department of Emergency Management
Health and Government Operations Committee
Hearing Date: 4 MAR 2022

Chairman Shane Pendergrass
Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 20401

Chairman Pendergrass,

I write today in **SUPPORT of House Bill 1105**. House Bill 1105 builds on several years of 9-1-1 system updates and improvements undertaken by the Maryland General Assembly. 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. HB1105 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 respectfully request a **favorable report on House Bill 1105**.

Sincerely,

Russell J. Strickland
Secretary



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

Maryland Department of Emergency Management