



FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Jan H. Gardner
County Executive

John (Jack) E. Markey, Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Senator William C. Smith, Jr., Chairman
Senator Jeff Waldstreicher, Vice Chairman

FROM: Jack Markey, Director, Division of Emergency Management *Jack Markey*

DATE: 1/19/2022

SUBJECT: SB57 – Jack Markey – Favorable with amendments

SB57 receives a FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS recommendation from me.

Deterring targeted abuse of public safety answering points, and prosecuting those who attempt or carry out those actions is fundamental to protecting access to critical public safety services initiated by contacting 9-1-1.

I suggest that language be amended in proposed 3-801 (C) to strike “a telephone” and insert the word “equipment”.

Suggested change with ~~STRIKE THROUGH~~ for suggested deletion and **BOLD** for proposed amended language.

“DATA” MEANS INFORMATION TRANSMITTED THROUGH ~~A TELEPHONE~~ EQUIPMENT INCLUDING VOICE, TEXT MESSAGES, IMAGES, AND VIDEO.

The goal being to ensure that the definition of “data” not be limited to information transmitted through a telephone. Calls or data sessions to 9-1-1 can originate from desktop computers or other equipment that may connect to the public safety answering point. The goal should be deterring attempts to impair public safety answering points, and not limiting the penalties to those who only use a telephone to do so.

In addition to my local government role which directly supports 9-1-1 in Frederick County, I have served on the Commission to Advance Next Generation 9-1-1 Across Maryland for the last four years; served as a member of the Maryland 9-1-1 Board representing local emergency management officials since 2008, and on January 10, 2022 was named the new Chairman of the MD 9-1-1 Board. I am here testifying as an individual.