



## **SB 649 – Public Safety Answering Point Personnel – Training in Telecommunications Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation**

**Bill Summary:** SB 649 modifies language for the 9-1-1 Trust Fund to explicitly permit the Fund to be used for telecommunications cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training and requires the Maryland 9-1-1 Board to establish training standards for public safety answering point personnel.

**MIEMSS Position:** Support with Amendments Offered by the Maryland Department of Emergency Management.

### **Rationale:**

- Public safety answering point (PSAP) personnel are a critical link in the emergency response system. These 9-1-1 Specialists, who answer calls made to 9-1-1 for all types of emergencies, are able to initiate life-saving interventions for those suffering critical emergencies by instructing callers in life-saving maneuvers until the arrival of emergency medical services (EMS) personnel.
- Training for 9-1-1 Specialists in how to respond to emergency callers – especially callers reporting a likely cardiac arrest – must include specific life-saving skills and practice in conveying instructions on how to apply those skills to citizens at the site of an emergency.
- 9-1-1 Specialists are a critical link in the chain of survival from cardiac arrest, and instruct citizens in how to administer effective CPR and use an Automated External Defibrillator, if available on site, until the arrival of EMS personnel.
- The Maryland 9-1-1 Board has the statutory responsibility of establishing training standards for all 9-1-1 Specialists, and MIEMSS certifies emergency medical dispatchers who meet national standards.
- MIEMSS supports SB 649's provisions that explicitly permit monies from the 9-1-1 Trust Fund to be used for training of 9-1-1 Specialists in Telecommunications CPR.
- MIEMSS believes that SB 649's provisions that would put CPR training standards in statute is not needed as that authority already exists within the Maryland 9-1-1 Board. MIEMSS supports amendments offered by the Department of Emergency Management that would delete those provisions in lines 10 through 21 on page 2.

**MIEMSS Supports SB 649 with Amendments Offered by  
the Maryland Department of Emergency Management**