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**FAVORABLE - SB 138**  
**Public Safety - Maryland 9-1-1 Board and Maryland Department of Emergency Management - Regulatory Authority**

Education, Energy, and the Environment

Maryland Department of Emergency Management  
Hearing Date: 23 JAN 2025

The Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) writes today in support of **SB 138 - Public Safety - Maryland 9-1-1 Board and Maryland Department of Emergency Management - Regulatory Authority**.

**SB 138** will restore regulatory authority to the Maryland 9-1-1 Board, which the Board had prior to updates to the statute made between 2018 and 2021. The Board has an active chapter in COMAR ([12.11.03 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone System](#)) but is unable to update outdated portions of the regulations, or issue new regulations in support of enhancing Maryland's 9-1-1 system.

The bill will also give regulatory authority to the Department of Emergency Management, which does not currently have the ability to issue regulations outside of those that would apply to the State Disaster Recovery Fund. This bill will allow the Department to establish a new title within COMAR and move the Emergency Telephone System under the Department's title. General regulatory authority will also provide the Department with the ability to, as needed, establish regulations which enhance the state's emergency management system.

In conclusion, the Maryland Department of Emergency Management respectfully requests a favorable report on **SB 138 - Public Safety - Maryland 9-1-1 Board and Maryland Department of Emergency Management - Regulatory Authority**. If you have any questions, please contact Anna Sierra, MDEM legislative liaison: [anna.sierra1@maryland.gov](mailto:anna.sierra1@maryland.gov).