

# ENROLLED

## COUNTY COUNCIL OF WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

2020 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

LEGISLATIVE DAY NO. 26

### LEGISLATIVE BILL 2020-15

INTRODUCED: December 1, 2020

INTRODUCED BY: The President of the Council at the request of the Acting County Executive.

AN ACT TO AMEND IN CHAPTER 15, TITLED "EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT" TO PROVIDE FOR ARTICLE IV - 9-1-1 TELEPHONE SYSTEMS, TO COMPLY WITH THE MARYLAND CODE.

WHEREAS, the State of Maryland enacted Maryland Code, Public Safety Article, Section 1-314 to require connection of multiple line telephone systems to allow for direct dialing of 9-1-1; and

WHEREAS, the Wicomico County Emergency Management and Disaster Preparedness Agency has requested the incorporation of the State Law requirement in the County Code; and

WHEREAS, the County Council deems it advisable that Chapter 15, Article IV - 9-1-1 Telephone Systems be adopted as an amendment to the County Code.

SECTION I: BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 15, titled "Emergency Management" be amended to adopt Article IV to read as follows:

#### ARTICLE IV - 9-1-1 TELEPHONE SYSTEMS

15.13. A. MARYLAND PUBLIC SAFETY CODE SECTION 1-314 CURRENTLY PROVIDES, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020, THAT A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCING SECTION 1.314(B), WHICH PROVIDES:

(B)(1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A PERSON THAT INSTALLS OR OPERATES A MULTIPLE-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM SHALL ENSURE THAT THE SYSTEM IS CONNECTED TO THE PUBLIC SWITCHED TELEPHONE NETWORK IN SUCH A WAY THAT WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL USING THE SYSTEM DIALS 9-1-1, THE CALL CONNECTS TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT WITHOUT REQUIRING THE USER TO DIAL ANY OTHER NUMBER OR SET OF NUMBERS.

(2) A UNIT OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF STATE GOVERNMENT SHALL COMPLY WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS

SUBSECTION ON THE DATE THAT THE MULTIPLE-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM OF THE UNIT IS NEXT UPGRADED.

SECTION 1.314(A) DEFINES A MULTIPLE-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM AS FOLLOWS:

(A) IN THIS SECTION, "MULTIPLE-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM" MEANS A SYSTEM THAT:

(1) CONSISTS OF COMMON CONTROL UNITS, TELEPHONE SETS, CONTROL HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE, AND ADJUNCT SYSTEMS, INCLUDING NETWORK AND PREMISES-BASED SYSTEMS; AND

(2) IS DESIGNED TO AGGREGATE MORE THAN ONE INCOMING VOICE COMMUNICATION CHANNEL FOR USE BY MORE THAN ONE TELEPHONE.

B. THE WICOMICO COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND-DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AGENCY SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCING THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS. OFFICERS AUTHORIZED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS TO ENFORCE THIS SECTION MAY ISSUE CITATIONS FOR CIVIL INFRACTIONS OF THIS SECTION.

C. A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION SHALL BE GUILTY OF A CIVIL INFRACTION AND BE SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT TO EXCEED \$250.00 PER VIOLATION. EACH DAY THE VIOLATION CONTINUES SHALL CONSTITUTE A SEPARATE VIOLATION. CIVIL INFRACTIONS ARE SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 221 OF THE COUNTY CODE.

SECTION II: BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION THAT this bill shall be known as Legislative Bill No. 2020-15 and shall take effect sixty (60) days after its enactment, unless a proper Petition for Referendum thereof shall be filed prior to said date; in which event, the Bill shall not take effect until the expiration of thirty (30) days following the approval of this Bill by a majority of the qualified voters of the County voting in any such referendum.

Certified correct as passed and adopted by the County Council of Wicomico County, Maryland this 5<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2020.

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

Larry W. Dodd (SEAL)

By: Larry W. Dodd, President

Laura Hurley (SEAL)

By: Laura Hurley, Secretary

I HEREBY CERTIFY that copies of the above Bill are available to the public, the press and other news media at the time of its introduction.

Laura Hurley (SEAL)

By: Laura Hurley, Secretary

Explanation:

~~Strike Out~~ indicates matters deleted from existing law.

CAPITALS INDICATE MATTERS ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

~~CAPITAL STRIKE OUT~~ indicates matter stricken from Bill by Amendment.

Underlining indicates Amendments to Bill

COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF  
WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

2020 Legislative Session

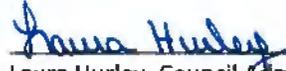
Legislative Day No. 26

LEGISLATIVE BILL NO. 2020-15

**INTRODUCED BY:** President of the Council at the request of the Acting County Executive

**Bill No. 2020-15:** An Act to amend in Chapter 15, Titled "Emergency Management" to provide for Article IV – 9-1-1 Telephone Systems, to comply with the Maryland Code.

Introduced and read first time on December 1, 2020. Ordered posted and public hearing scheduled for January 5, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Hurley, Council Administrator

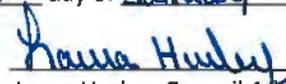
**PUBLIC HEARING:** Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing held on January 5, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Hurley, Council Administrator

**CERTIFICATION:** The undersigned hereby certifies that this Bill was Approved and Adopted by the County Council of Wicomico County, Maryland, on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Hurley, Council Administrator

Presented to the Acting County Executive for approval this 6<sup>th</sup> day of January at 11:45 a.m. (5 days §411)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Hurley, Council Administrator

**BY THE ACTING COUNTY EXECUTIVE:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting County Executive

APPROVED  
Date: Jan 8, 2021  
(21 days §411)

VETOED  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

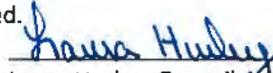
**BY THE COUNCIL:**

Option One: This Bill, having been approved by the Acting County Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on January 8, 2021 and effective on: March 9, 2021.  
(60 days §311)

Option Two: This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Acting County Executive with 21 days of its presentation, stands enacted on \_\_\_\_\_ and becomes effective on \_\_\_\_\_.  
(60 days §311)

Option Three: This Bill, being exempt from the Executive Veto stands enacted on \_\_\_\_\_ and becomes effective on \_\_\_\_\_. (Charter Section 305)

**ENROLLMENT:** Legislative Bill No. 2020-15 is herewith submitted to the County Council of Wicomico County for enrollment as being the text as finally passed.

  
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Laura Hurley, Council Administrator