COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

2021 Legislative Session

Bill 2021-09

MULTIPLE-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEMS

Introduced by Charles County Commissioners

Amending the Code of Charles County to achieve consistency with the Annotated Code of Maryland, Public Safety Article Section 1-314, known as "Kari’s Law."

Adding Chapter 283- Telephone Access To 9-1-1 Emergency Assistance

Date introduced: 10 / 19 / 2021

Public Hearing: 11 / 17 / 2021 @ 6:00 p.m. Virtually

Commissioners Action: 11 / 17 / 2021


Pass/Fail: Pass

Effective Date: 01 / 01 / 2022

Remarks: 

NOTE: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing text. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

2021 Legislative Session

Bill No. 2021-09

Chapter. No. 283

Introduced by County Commissioners of Charles County

Date of Introduction October 19, 2021

BILL

AN ACT concerning

MULTIPLE-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEMS

FOR the purpose of

Amending the Code of Charles County to achieve consistency with the Annotated Code of Maryland, Public Safety Article Section 1-314, known as "Kari's Law."

BY adding:

CHAPTER 283- TELEPHONE ACCESS TO 9-1-1 EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Code of Charles County, Maryland

(2016 Edition)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Laws of Charles County, Maryland read as follows:

§ 283-1. PURPOSE; APPLICABILITY.

(A) PURPOSE. IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE, THE PURPOSE OF THIS CHAPTER IS TO ENSURE THAT ANY PERSON USING A MULTIPLE-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM MAY DIRECT DIAL 9-1-1 WITHOUT DIALING ANY OTHER NUMBER OR SET OF NUMBERS.

(B) APPLICABILITY. THIS CHAPTER APPLIES TO ANY PERSON WHO INSTALLS OR OPERATES A MULTIPLE-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Asterisks *** mean intervening code language remaining unchanged
CAPITALS mean language added to the law
[Brackets] mean language deleted from the law
§ 283-2 DEFINITIONS.

IN THIS ARTICLE, THE FOLLOWING TERMS SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED:


“PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT” CARRIES THE SAME DEFINITION AS SET FORTH IN THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND ANNOTATED CODE, SECTION 1-301.

§ 283-3 REQUIREMENTS.

PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-314 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND ANNOTATED CODE, A PERSON WHO 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 OF SET OF NUMBERS.

§ 283-4. AUTHORITY TO TEST.

THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES IS DESIGNATED TO ENFORCE THIS CHAPTER, AND MAY COORDINATE WITH OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, PUBLIC ENTITIES, OR PRIVATE VENDORS, TO EXECUTE 9-1-1 ACCESS VERIFICATION TESTING OF MULTIPLE-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEMS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THIS CHAPTER.

§ 283-5. PENALTIES.

A PERSON WHO VIOLATES SECTION 283-3 OF THIS CHAPTER IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF $100. EACH DAY FOLLOWING THE FIRST NOTICE OF VIOLATION THAT A MULTIPLE-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM IS NONCOMPLIANT WITH SECTION 283-3 OF THIS CHAPTER SHALL BE DEEMED A SEPARATE VIOLATION. NO FINES SHALL BE IMPOSED PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2022.
SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this act shall take effect forty-five (45) calendar days after it becomes law.

ADOPTED this 17th day of November, 2021.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President
Bobby Rucci, Vice President
Gilbert O. Bowling, III
Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.
Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.

ATTEST:

Carol A. DeSoto
Clerk to the Commissioners

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