

Chapter 349

(Senate Bill 633)

AN ACT concerning

Public Safety – 9–1–1 Emergency Telephone System – Alterations

FOR the purpose of making alterations to the 9–1–1 Emergency Telephone System in the State; altering the classification ~~and compensation~~ of 9–1–1 specialists; authorizing 9–1–1 specialists to seek certain treatment confidentially; requiring the Maryland 9–1–1 Board to establish certain procedures governing vacancies on the Board; altering the powers and duties of the Board with respect to public safety answering point personnel training and cybersecurity standards; requiring the Comptroller to submit certain updates regarding certain audits; altering the maximum amount of the county 9–1–1 fee that a county may impose under certain circumstances; and generally relating to 9–1–1 emergency telephone systems.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Public Safety

Section 1–301, 1–302.1, 1–304.2, 1–305(c), 1–306(b)(15) and (e), ~~1–307~~, 1–309.1, 1–310(f), and 1–311

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

BY repealing

Article – Public Safety

Section 1–305(d)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Public Safety

Section 1–305(d)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Public Safety

1–301.

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) “Board” means the Maryland 9–1–1 Board.

(c) “Commercial mobile radio service” or “CMRS” means mobile telecommunications service that is:

- (1) provided for profit with the intent of receiving compensation or monetary gain;
- (2) an interconnected, two-way voice service; and
- (3) available to the public.

(d) “Commercial mobile radio service provider” or “CMRS provider” means a person authorized by the Federal Communications Commission to provide CMRS in the State.

(e) “County 9–1–1 fee” means the fee imposed by a county in accordance with § 1–311 of this subtitle.

(f) “County plan” means a plan for a 9–1–1 system or enhanced 9–1–1 system, or an amendment to the plan, developed by a county or several counties together under this subtitle.

(g) (1) “Customer” means:

- (i) the person that contracts with a home service provider for CMRS;
- or
- (ii) the end user of the CMRS if the end user of the CMRS is not the contracting party.

(2) “Customer” does not include:

- (i) a reseller of CMRS; or
- (ii) a serving carrier under an arrangement to serve the customer outside the home service provider’s licensed service area.

(h) “Enhanced 9–1–1 system” means a 9–1–1 system that provides:

- (1) automatic number identification;
- (2) automatic location identification; and
- (3) any other technological advancements that the Board requires.

(i) “FCC order” means an order issued by the Federal Communications Commission under proceedings regarding the compatibility of enhanced 9–1–1 systems and delivery of wireless enhanced 9–1–1 service.

(j) **(1) “FIRST RESPONDER” MEANS AN EMPLOYEE OF A STATE OR LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY THAT PROVIDES EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES.**

(2) “FIRST RESPONDER” INCLUDES:

(I) A FIREFIGHTER;

(II) A PARAMEDIC;

(III) AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN;

(IV) A RESCUE SQUAD MEMBER;

(V) A SWORN MEMBER OF THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL;

(VI) A MEMBER OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE OR RESCUE COMPANY WHO IS A COVERED EMPLOYEE UNDER § 9–234 OF THE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT ARTICLE;

(VII) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS LICENSED OR CERTIFIED UNDER § 13–516 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE; AND

(VIII) A 9–1–1 SPECIALIST.

(K) “Home service provider” means the facilities–based carrier or reseller that contracts with a customer to provide CMRS.

[(k)] (L) “Next Generation 9–1–1 services” means an Internet Protocol (IP)–based system, comprised of hardware, software, data, and operational policies and procedures, that:

(1) provides standardized interfaces from emergency call and message services to support emergency communications;

(2) processes all types of requests for emergency services, including voice, text, data, and multimedia information;

(3) acquires and integrates additional emergency call data useful to routing and handling of requests for emergency services;

(4) delivers the emergency calls, messages, and data to the appropriate public safety answering point and other appropriate emergency entities;

(5) supports data or video communications needs for coordinated incident response and management; and

(6) provides broadband service to public safety answering points or other first responder entities.

[(l)] (M) “9–1–1–accessible service” means telephone service or another communications service that connects an individual dialing the digits 9–1–1 to an established public safety answering point.

[(m)] (N) (1) “9–1–1 service carrier” means a provider of CMRS or other 9–1–1–accessible service.

(2) “9–1–1 service carrier” does not include a telephone company.

[(n)] (O) “9–1–1 specialist” means an employee of a county public safety answering point, or an employee working in a county public safety answering point, whose duties and responsibilities include:

(1) receiving and processing 9–1–1 requests for emergency services;

(2) other support functions directly related to 9–1–1 requests for emergency services; or

(3) dispatching law enforcement officers, fire rescue services, emergency medical services, and other public safety services to the scene of an emergency.

[(o)] (P) (1) “9–1–1 system” means telephone service that:

(i) meets the planning guidelines established under this subtitle;
and

(ii) automatically connects an individual dialing the digits 9–1–1 to an established public safety answering point.

(2) “9–1–1 system” includes:

(i) equipment for connecting and outswitching 9–1–1 calls within a telephone central office;

(ii) trunking facilities from a telephone central office to a public safety answering point; and

(iii) equipment to connect 9–1–1 calls to the appropriate public safety agency.

[(p)] (Q) “9–1–1 Trust Fund” means the fund established under § 1–308 of this subtitle.

[(q)] (R) “Prepaid wireless E 9–1–1 fee” means the fee that is required to be collected by a seller from a consumer in the amount established under § 1–313 of this subtitle.

[(r)] (S) “Prepaid wireless telecommunications service” means a commercial mobile radio service that:

- (1) allows a consumer to dial 9–1–1 to access the 9–1–1 system;
- (2) must be paid for in advance; and
- (3) is sold in predetermined units that decline with use in a known amount.

[(s)] (T) “Public safety agency” means:

- (1) a functional division of a public agency that provides fire fighting, police, medical, or other emergency services; or
- (2) a private entity that provides fire fighting, police, medical, or other emergency services on a voluntary basis.

[(t)] (U) “Public safety answering point” means a communications facility that:

- (1) is operated on a 24–hour basis;
- (2) first receives 9–1–1 requests for emergency services in a 9–1–1 service area; and
- (3) as appropriate:
 - (i) dispatches public safety services directly;
 - (ii) transmits incident data to appropriate public safety agencies within the State for the dispatch of public safety services; or
 - (iii) transfers 9–1–1 requests for emergency services or transmits incident data to:

1. an appropriate federal emergency communication center responsible for the delivery of public safety services on a federal campus or federal reservation; or

2. an appropriate public safety answering point located within or outside the State.

[(u)] (v) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Emergency Management.

[(v)] (w) “Seller” means a person that sells prepaid wireless telecommunications service to another person.

[(w)] (x) “State 9–1–1 fee” means the fee imposed in accordance with § 1–310 of this subtitle.

[(x)] (y) “Wireless enhanced 9–1–1 service” means enhanced 9–1–1 service under an FCC order.

1–302.1.

(a) The General Assembly finds that 9–1–1 specialists are key members of the team of public safety personnel responding to requests from the public for emergency assistance.

(b) [It is the intent of the General Assembly that jurisdictions] **EACH JURISDICTION** employing 9–1–1 specialists **SHALL**:

(1) appropriately classify 9–1–1 specialists **AS FIRST RESPONDERS** in recognition of the training, knowledge, and skills that 9–1–1 specialists possess and demonstrate in answering and handling requests for emergency assistance; and

(2) compensate 9–1–1 specialists in a manner that:

(i) reflects their membership in the team of public safety personnel answering and responding to requests for emergency assistance; ~~and~~

(ii) is commensurate with the training, knowledge, and skills they possess; ~~AND~~.

~~(iii) EXCEEDS THE MINIMUM WAGE RATE REQUIRED IN § 3-413 OF THE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT ARTICLE.~~

1–304.2.

(A) Each public safety answering point shall adopt and implement programs compliant with best practices on 9-1-1 acute/traumatic and chronic stress management.

(B) (1) A 9-1-1 SPECIALIST MAY, AS PART OF OCCUPATIONAL WELL-BEING STANDARDS AND PRACTICES, SEEK TREATMENT FOR JOB-RELATED AUDIBLE OR VISUAL TRAUMA WITHOUT INFORMING ANYONE.

(2) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED UNDER TITLE 9, SUBTITLE 1 OF THE COURTS ARTICLE, COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN A 9-1-1 SPECIALIST AND A TREATMENT PROVIDER THAT OCCUR IN CONNECTION WITH THE TREATMENT OF JOB-RELATED AUDIBLE OR VISUAL TRAUMA SHALL BE CONFIDENTIAL.

1-305.

(c) (1) The term of a member is 4 years and begins on July 1.

(2) The terms of the members are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Board on October 1, 2003.

(3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(4) (I) If a vacancy occurs after a term has begun, the Governor shall appoint a successor to represent the organization or group in which the vacancy occurs.

(II) THE BOARD, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, SHALL DEVELOP AND ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR:

1. FILLING A VACANCY AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE AFTER THE VACANCY OCCURS; AND

2. ENSURING CANDIDATES FOR FILLING A VACANCY HAVE APPROPRIATE EXPERTISE AND A COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING 9-1-1 SERVICES IN THE STATE.

(5) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

[(d) The Governor shall appoint a chairperson from among the Board members.]

(D) FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS, THE BOARD SHALL ELECT A CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.

1-306.

(b) The Board's responsibilities include:

(15) establishing training standards for public safety answering point personnel based on national best practices, including training concerning:

(I) Next Generation 9–1–1 topics; [and]

(II) individual psychological well-being and resilience; AND

(III) **SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (E)(2) OF THIS SECTION, IMPLICIT BIAS TRAINING;**

(e) (1) (I) The standards established by the Board under subsection (b)(15) of this section shall include onboarding standards for newly hired 9–1–1 specialists and minimum continuing education standards for 9–1–1 specialists.

(II) **THE BOARD SHALL DEVELOP CRITERIA AND APPROVE THE INITIAL AND ONGOING TRAINING CURRICULUM FOR THE TRAINING REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(15) OF THIS SECTION.**

(2) **PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT PERSONNEL SHALL BE PROVIDED THE IMPLICIT BIAS TRAINING REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(15)(III) OF THIS SECTION:**

(I) **ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2024, FOR PERSONNEL HIRED BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2022;**

(II) **AT THE TIME OF HIRE FOR PERSONNEL HIRED BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2022; AND**

(III) **ON A RECURRING BASIS WITH UPDATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD, BUT AT LEAST ONCE EVERY 4 YEARS.**

(3) (i) At least once each year, the Board shall provide for an audit of each public safety answering point in order to ensure that 9–1–1 specialists and other personnel employed by the public safety answering point have satisfied the training requirements established in accordance with subsection (b)(15) of this section.

(ii) The audit described under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph may be conducted concurrently with an inspection of the public safety answering point in accordance with subsection (b)(10) of this section.

(III) 1. IF THE BOARD DETERMINES THAT THE PERSONNEL EMPLOYED BY A PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT HAVE NOT SATISFIED THE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B)(15) OF THIS SECTION, THE BOARD AND PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT SHALL JOINTLY DEVELOP A REMEDIATION PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE.

2. THE BOARD MAY IMPOSE SANCTIONS ON A PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT IF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT FAILS TO COMPLY WITH A REMEDIATION PLAN OR IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SUBPARAGRAPH.

1-307.

(a) The Board shall submit an annual report to the Governor, the Secretary, and, subject to § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the Legislative Policy Committee, THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, AND THE HOUSE HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE.

(b) The report SUBMITTED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION shall provide the following information:

(1) for each county:

[(1)] (I) the type of 9-1-1 system currently operating in the county;

[(2)] (II) the total State 9-1-1 fee and county 9-1-1 fee charged;

[(3)] (III) the funding formula in effect;

[(4)] (IV) any statutory or regulatory violation by the county and the response of the Board; AND

[(5)] (V) any efforts to establish an enhanced 9-1-1 system in the county;

[and]

[(6)] (2) any suggested changes to this subtitle; AND

(3) FOR THE ANNUAL REPORTS SUBMITTED IN 2022 THROUGH 2027:

(I) AN UPDATE ON THE PROGRESS OF EACH COUNTY IN TRANSITIONING TO NEXT GENERATION 9-1-1 TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING COMPLIANCE WITH CYBERSECURITY STANDARDS AND MEETING GOALS OF INTEROPERABILITY AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM MAPPING INTEGRATION;

(II) THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL INFORMATION FOR EACH COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT:

- 1. STAFFING AND VACANCY LEVELS;**
- 2. A SUMMARY OF THE COUNTY'S EFFORTS TO FIND, HIRE, AND RETAIN QUALIFIED PERSONNEL;**
- 3. AN UPDATE ON TRAINING OF PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT PERSONNEL UNDER § 1-306 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND**
- 4. INCIDENCE OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS BY PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT PERSONNEL;**

(III) AN UPDATE ON AUDITS CONDUCTED BY THE COMPTROLLER OF FEE COLLECTION AND REMITTANCES, INCLUDING WHETHER FEES COLLECTED ARE SUFFICIENT TO COVER EACH COUNTY'S OPERATIONAL COSTS FOR THE 9-1-1 SYSTEM AND ANY MEASURES RECOMMENDED OR IMPLEMENTED TO ADDRESS COST SHORTAGES;

(IV) ANNUAL INCIDENTS OF UNNECESSARY REQUESTS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES MADE TO 9-1-1 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISPATCHING AN UNNEEDED EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND ANY RESULTING BODILY HARM OR DEATH;

(V) INCIDENCE AND INTERVAL DATA RELATING TO 9-1-1 OUTAGES OR THE ABSENCE OF 9-1-1 SPECIALISTS TO RECEIVE REQUESTS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES; AND

(VI) AN UPDATE ON INTEGRATION OF THE 9-1-1 SYSTEM WITH 9-8-8 AND 2-1-1 AND THE IMPACT ON 9-1-1 OPERATIONS AND CAPACITY.

(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUMMARIZE AND ANALYZE THE INFORMATION PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(3) OF THIS SECTION AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, SUBMIT TO THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

- (1) THE SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS;**
- (2) ANY ASSOCIATED RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED BY THE ANALYSIS; AND**

(3) A DESCRIPTION OF ANY MEASURES IMPLEMENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED BY THE ANALYSIS.

1-309.1.

(a) In consultation with the Maryland Cybersecurity Council established under § 9-2901 of the State Government Article, the Board shall establish cybersecurity standards for public safety answering points based on national industry and 9-1-1 system trade association best practices, including standards concerning response protocols in the event of a cybersecurity attack on a public safety answering point.

(b) At least once each year on a date determined by the Board and in advance of submitting a request for or receiving any money from the 9-1-1 Trust Fund, the director of each public safety answering point shall examine the cybersecurity of the public safety answering point to determine whether the cybersecurity defenses employed by the public safety answering point satisfy the standards established by the Board under subsection (a) of this section and submit to the Board a report detailing the results of that exercise.

(c) **(1)** If a director of a public safety answering point fails to submit a report required under subsection (b) of this section, the Board may not authorize any money from the 9-1-1 Trust Fund to be paid to a county serviced by the public safety answering point until that report has been submitted.

(2) (I) IF A PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT FAILS TO MEET THE CYBERSECURITY STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THIS SECTION DURING THE ANNUAL EXAMINATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE BOARD SHALL WORK WITH THE PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT TO DEVELOP AN AGGRESSIVE, CONSENSUS REMEDIATION PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE.

(II) IF A PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT FAILS TO COMPLY WITH A REMEDIATION PLAN DEVELOPED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH, THE BOARD MAY REFUSE TO AUTHORIZE MONEY FROM THE 9-1-1 TRUST FUND TO BE PAID TO A COUNTY SERVICED BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT FOR ANY NEW, NONCYBERSECURITY PURPOSE.

1-310.

(f) **(1)** The Comptroller, in consultation with the Board, shall adopt procedures for auditing surcharge collection and remittance by telephone companies and CMRS providers of 9-1-1 fees collected under this section and under § 1-311 of this subtitle.

(2) The procedures adopted under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be consistent with the audit and appeal procedures established for the sales and use tax under Titles 11 and 13 of the Tax – General Article.

(3) The Comptroller may issue an administrative subpoena to compel compliance with an audit conducted under this subsection.

(4) The Comptroller shall develop and distribute informational materials to telephone companies and CMRS providers regarding:

(i) proper collection and remittance of 9–1–1 fees; and

(ii) the audit procedures adopted under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(5) On request of a telephone company or CMRS provider, and except as otherwise required by law, the information that the telephone company or CMRS provider reports to the Comptroller shall be confidential, privileged, and proprietary and may not be disclosed to any person other than the telephone company or CMRS provider.

(6) The Comptroller is entitled to an amount equal to 0.5% of the 9–1–1 fees collected under this section to cover the expenses of conducting audits under this subsection.

(7) On or before December 1 each year, the Comptroller shall submit an annual report to the Board detailing the audits conducted during the immediately preceding year and the outcome of each audit.

(8) (I) BETWEEN DECEMBER 31, 2022, AND JANUARY 1, 2025, IN ADDITION TO THE ANNUAL REPORT REQUIRED BY PARAGRAPH (7) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE COMPTROLLER SHALL:

1. SUBMIT TO THE BOARD QUARTERLY UPDATES DETAILING THE AUDITS CONDUCTED IN THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING QUARTER; AND

2. IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE BOARD OF ANY DEFICIENCIES DETECTED BY AN AUDIT.

(II) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025, ON REQUEST OF THE BOARD, THE COMPTROLLER SHALL PROVIDE QUARTERLY UPDATES DETAILING THE AUDITS CONDUCTED SINCE THE LAST UPDATE WAS PROVIDED.

(9) The Comptroller may adopt regulations necessary to carry out the requirements of this subsection.

(a) This section does not apply to prepaid wireless telecommunications service.

(b) In addition to the State 9–1–1 fee, the governing body of each county, by ordinance or resolution enacted or adopted after a public hearing, may impose a county 9–1–1 fee to be added to all current bills rendered for switched local exchange access service or CMRS or other 9–1–1-accessible service in the county.

(c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection and subject to paragraphs (3) through (6) of this subsection, the county 9–1–1 fee imposed by a county may not exceed 75 cents per month for each switched local exchange access service, CMRS, or other 9–1–1-accessible service provided.

(2) If revenues attributable to the county 9–1–1 fee for a fiscal year do not provide the revenues necessary to cover a county’s operational costs for the 9–1–1 system for that fiscal year, the county may, for the following fiscal year, impose a county 9–1–1 fee **[not exceeding \$1.50 per month] SUFFICIENT TO COVER THE COUNTY’S PROJECTED OPERATIONAL COSTS FOR THE 9–1–1 SYSTEM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR** for each switched local exchange access service, CMRS, or other 9–1–1-accessible service provided.

(3) Except as provided in paragraphs (4) through (6) of this subsection, if a service provider provisions to the same individual or person the voice channel capacity to make more than one simultaneous outbound call from a 9–1–1-accessible service, each separate outbound call voice channel capacity, regardless of the technology, shall constitute a separate 9–1–1-accessible service for purposes of calculating the county 9–1–1 fees due under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection.

(4) CMRS provided to multiple devices that share a mobile telephone number shall be treated as a single 9–1–1-accessible service for purposes of calculating the county 9–1–1 fees due under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection.

(5) A broadband connection not used for telephone service may not constitute a separate voice channel capacity for purposes of calculating the county 9–1–1 fees due under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection.

(6) (i) For a telephone service that provides, to multiple locations, shared simultaneous outbound voice channel capacity configured to provide local dial in different states or counties, the voice channel capacity to which the 9–1–1 fee due under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection applies is only the portion of the shared voice channel capacity in the county identified by the service supplier’s books and records.

(ii) In determining the portion of shared capacity in the county, a service supplier may rely on, among other factors, a customer’s certification of the customer’s allocation of capacity in the county, which may be based on:

1. each end user location;

2. the total number of end users; and
3. the number of end users at each end user location.

(7) The amount of the county 9-1-1 fees may not exceed a level necessary to cover the total eligible maintenance and operation costs of the county.

(d) The county 9-1-1 fee continues in effect until repealed or modified by a subsequent county ordinance or resolution.

(e) After imposing, repealing, or modifying a county 9-1-1 fee, the county shall certify the amount of the county 9-1-1 fee to:

(1) the Public Service Commission;

(2) **THE BOARD; AND**

(3) **NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS BEFORE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHANGE, THE COMPTROLLER.**

(f) The Public Service Commission shall direct each telephone company that provides service in a county that imposed a county 9-1-1 fee to add, within 60 days, the full amount of the county 9-1-1 fee to all current bills rendered for switched local exchange access service in the county.

(g) Within 60 days after a county enacts or adopts an ordinance or resolution that imposes, repeals, or modifies a county 9-1-1 fee, each 9-1-1 service carrier that provides service in the county shall add the full amount of the county 9-1-1 fee to all current bills rendered for CMRS or other 9-1-1-accessible service in the county.

(h) (1) Each telephone company and each 9-1-1 service carrier shall:

(i) act as a collection agent for the 9-1-1 Trust Fund with respect to the county 9-1-1 fee imposed by each county;

(ii) collect the money from the county 9-1-1 fee on a county basis;
and

(iii) remit all money collected to the Comptroller on a monthly basis.

(2) The Comptroller shall deposit the money remitted in the 9-1-1 Trust Fund account maintained for the county that imposed the county 9-1-1 fee.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2022.

Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2022.