



MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
VETERANS CAUCUS

TO: Chair Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk
Health and Government Operations Committee

FROM: Maryland Veterans Caucus, House Membership

DATE: February 19, 2024

RE: **HB933 -Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services - 9-8-8 Trust Fund Fees**

The Maryland Veterans Caucus, House Membership respectfully requests a favorable report on **HB933 - Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services - 9-8-8 Trust Fund Fees**.

This bill was sponsored by Delegate Jessica Feldmark for the purpose of establishing a 9-8-8 fee to be paid by each subscriber to switched local exchange access service, commercial mobile radio service, or other 9-8-8-accessible service; establishing a prepaid wireless 9-8-8 fee to be paid on certain retail transactions; requiring the Comptroller to deposit the 9-8-8 fees and the prepaid wireless 9-8-8 fees in the 9-8-8 Trust Fund; and requiring the Comptroller to adopt procedures for auditing fee collection and remittance by telephone companies and commercial mobile radio service providers.

The Veterans Caucus mission is to study, develop, and promote legislation designed to improve the quality of life for veterans in the State of Maryland in the areas of employment, education, economics, training, and health. And to assist the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs in achieving its mission and goals, on behalf of the veterans in the State.

The Veterans Caucus Legislative Review Board offers and **recommends support and a favorable report of HB933.**

Thank you,

Mike Rogers

Delegate Mike Rogers
House Chair, Veterans Caucus