

for the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to the 911 emergency telephone system.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 41 – Governor – Executive and Administrative Departments

Section 18-101, 18-105, and 18-106

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1993 Replacement Volume and 1994 Supplement)

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

Article 41 – Governor – Executive and Administrative Departments

18-101.

(a) The General Assembly recognizes the paramount importance of the safety and well-being of the citizens of Maryland and further recognizes that when the lives or property of its citizens are in imminent danger, timely and appropriate assistance must be rendered.

(b) Further, the General Assembly recognizes that such assistance is almost always summoned by telephone and that a multiplicity of emergency telephone numbers exist throughout the State and within any one county.

(c) The General Assembly is concerned that avoidable delays in reaching appropriate emergency aid are occurring to the jeopardy of life and property.

(d) The General Assembly acknowledges that the three digit number, 911, is a nationally recognized and applied telephone number which may be used to summon emergency aid and to eliminate delays caused by lack of familiarity with emergency numbers and by understandable confusion in circumstances of crisis.

(e) It is the purpose of this subtitle to establish the three digit number, 911, as the primary emergency telephone number for the State of Maryland and to provide for the orderly installation, maintenance, and operation of 911 systems within the State.

(f) In this subtitle, the following words and terms have the meanings indicated:

(1) "County" means any of the 23 counties of Maryland and Baltimore City.

(2) "Comptroller" means the Comptroller of the State Treasury.

(3) "Board" means the Emergency Number Systems Board.

(4) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the State Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

(5) "911 system" means a telephone service which meets the planning guidelines established pursuant to § 18-103 of this subtitle, and which automatically connects a person dialing the digits 911 to an established public safety answering point.