

HOUSE BILL 776

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CF SB 70

By: **Delegates Munoz, Adams, Anderton, Arian, Bartlett, Boteler, Buckel, Chang, Chisholm, Ghrist, Griffith, Hartman, Hornberger, Howard, D. Jones, Kipke, Krebs, Mangione, Mautz, McComas, McKay, Morgan, Novotny, Rogers, Rose, Saab, Szeliga, and Thiam**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2022

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Emergency Medical System Plan – Guidelines for Emergency Medical Services –**
3 **Law Enforcement Canines**

4 FOR the purpose of adding a requirement to the Emergency Medical System plan for
5 guidelines that authorize emergency medical services personnel to provide
6 emergency medical services to canines injured in the line of duty with law
7 enforcement agencies; and generally relating to the Emergency Medical System plan.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Education
10 Section 13–509
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Education**

16 13–509.

17 (a) In addition to the duties set forth elsewhere in this subtitle, the EMS Board
18 shall develop and adopt an Emergency Medical System plan to ensure effective coordination
19 and evaluation of emergency medical services delivered in this State.

20 (b) (1) The Emergency Medical System plan shall include:

21 (i) Criteria for the designation of trauma and specialty referral

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



facilities, including all echelons of care;

(ii) Criteria and guidelines for the delivery of emergency medical services including provisions to assure proper medical direction of emergency medical services;

(iii) A plan designed to maintain and enhance the communications and transportation systems for emergency medical services;

(iv) Provisions for the evaluation of emergency medical services personnel training programs;

(v) Provisions for the establishment of public information and education programs designed to enhance the public's understanding of the Emergency Medical System;

(vi) Criteria and methodologies to evaluate the System's effectiveness in delivering quality emergency medical services needed by the citizens of Maryland; [and]

(vii) Provisions for the evaluation and monitoring of the Emergency Medical System plan to ensure compliance with this subtitle by all segments of the Emergency Medical System; AND

(VIII) GUIDELINES AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO A CANINE INJURED IN THE LINE OF DUTY THAT IS OWNED BY, OR WHOSE SERVICES ARE EMPLOYED BY, A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY LISTED IN § 3-101(E)(1)(II) OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE, INCLUDING GUIDELINES THAT:

1. AUTHORIZE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED TO A CANINE AT THE SCENE OF THE EMERGENCY;

2. AUTHORIZE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL TO TRANSPORT THE CANINE TO A DESIGNATED VETERINARY FACILITY AND TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO THE CANINE DURING TRANSPORT;

3. GRANT IMMUNITY FROM CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LIABILITY FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL WHO PROVIDE SERVICES TO THE CANINE IN GOOD FAITH; AND

4. PROHIBIT EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL FROM PROVIDING SERVICES TO A CANINE IF THE PERSONNEL ARE NEEDED CONCURRENTLY TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS.

1 (2) The EMS Board shall adopt regulations to implement the Emergency
2 Medical System plan required under this section, subject to paragraph (3) of this
3 subsection.

4 (3) Prior to adopting regulations under this section, the EMS Board shall
5 consult with and provide opportunity for comment from local jurisdictions, volunteer and
6 career fire companies, emergency medical technicians, rescue squad personnel, and
7 hospitals and consider:

8 (i) The fiscal impact of the proposed regulations on local
9 jurisdictions, volunteer and career fire companies, emergency medical technicians, rescue
10 squad personnel, and hospitals; and

11 (ii) The effect of the proposed regulations on the ability of local
12 jurisdictions, volunteer and career fire companies, emergency medical technicians, rescue
13 squad personnel, and hospitals to continue to deliver emergency medical services.

14 (c) The EMS Board shall consult with the Advisory Council in the development
15 of the Emergency Medical System plan.

16 (d) The EMS Board may adopt regulations that assure that helicopters
17 transporting patients between hospitals or to or from specialty centers notify the System's
18 communication center in the State Emergency Medical Communications System.

19 (e) Each State agency and department shall cooperate with the EMS Board in
20 implementing the State Emergency Medical System plan.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
22 1, 2022.