

House Bill 1456

By: Representatives Shannon of the 84th, Holly of the 111th, Nguyen of the 89th, Cannon of the 58th, Scott of the 76th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 38-3-182 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 establishment of Georgia Emergency Communications Authority, purpose, duties and
3 responsibilities, board of directors, perpetual existence, power and authority, operation, and
4 regulation, so as to provide for assistance to locally managed public safety answering points
5 for the voluntary collection and dissemination of information relating to mental health
6 conditions and alternate emergency contacts; to amend Part 4 of Article 2 of Chapter 5 of
7 Title 46 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to emergency telephone number
8 9-1-1 system, so as to require a public safety answering point to provide a method for
9 collection of such information; to require contact of an alternate emergency contact upon the
10 dispatch of emergency services in certain instances; to provide for a short title; to provide for
11 liability; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

13 **SECTION 1.**

14 This Act shall be known and may be cited as "Zadok's Call."

SECTION 2.

Code Section 38-3-182 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to establishment of Georgia Emergency Communications Authority, purpose, duties and responsibilities, board of directors, perpetual existence, power and authority, operation, and regulation, is amended in subsection (c) by revising paragraphs (8) and (9) and adding a new paragraph to read as follows:

"(8) Identify any necessary changes or enhancements to develop and deploy NG911 statewide; ~~and~~

(9) Upon request by a public safety answering point, provide assistance to such public safety answering point with its locally managed processes to be regarded as Logan's List: the collection, storage, retrieval, and dissemination of information voluntarily submitted to a public safety answering point which indicates an individual has a physical, mental, or neurological condition which impedes his or her ability to communicate with any law enforcement officer or emergency responder; and

(10) Upon request by a public safety answering point, provide assistance to such public safety answering point with its locally managed processes for the collection, storage, retrieval, and dissemination of information voluntarily submitted to a public safety answering point which indicates an individual has a mental health condition and an alternate emergency contact for such individual."

SECTION 3.

Part 4 of Article 2 of Chapter 5 of Title 46 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to emergency telephone number 9-1-1 system, is amended in Code Section 46-5-128, relating to cooperation by public agencies, as follows:

"46-5-128.

(a) All public agencies shall assist the authority in its efforts to carry out the intent of this part; and such agencies shall comply with the guidelines developed pursuant to Code Section 46-5-124 by furnishing a resolution of intent regarding an emergency 9-1-1 system.

(b) A public agency which provides a public safety answering point shall provide for a method for the voluntary submission of information which indicates an individual residing at a specific address has a mental health condition and an alternate emergency contact for such individual. Upon the dispatch of any public safety agency in response to a call for services initiated by such individual or to the address associated with such individual, the public safety answering point shall immediately notify the alternate emergency contact of such dispatch."

SECTION 4.

Said part is further amended by revising Code Section 46-5-131, relating to exemptions from liability in operation of 9-1-1 system, as follows:

"46-5-131.

(a)(1) Whether participating in a state-wide emergency 9-1-1 system or an emergency 9-1-1 system serving one or more local governments, neither the state nor the authority nor any local government of the state nor any emergency 9-1-1 system provider or service supplier or its employees, directors, officers, contractors, and agents, except as set forth in paragraph (2) of this subsection and in cases of wanton and willful misconduct or bad faith, shall be liable for death or injury to any person or for damage to property as a result of either developing, adopting, establishing, participating in, implementing, maintaining, or carrying out duties involved in operating the emergency 9-1-1 system or in the identification of the telephone number, address, or name associated with any person accessing an emergency 9-1-1 system.

63 (2) Any local government which participates in an emergency 9-1-1 system and which
64 fails to contact an alternate emergency contact pursuant to subsection (b) of Code Section
65 46-5-128 shall be liable for damages relating to any death or injury which was
66 proximately caused by such failure.

67 (b) No local government of the State of Georgia shall be required to release, indemnify,
68 defend, or hold harmless any emergency 9-1-1 system provider from any loss, claim,
69 demand, suit, or other action or any liability whatsoever which arises out of subsection (a)
70 of this Code section, unless the local government agrees or has agreed to assume such
71 obligations."

72 **SECTION 5.**

73 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.