

SENATE BILL 542

L2

8lr1098
CF 8lr2075

By: **Carroll County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2018

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Carroll County – Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the County Commissioners of Carroll County to distribute
4 certain funds to rescue and emergency medical services companies in addition to fire
5 companies, subject to a certain plan; authorizing the County Commissioners to
6 award certain service award payments to members of rescue and emergency medical
7 services companies in addition to fire companies; authorizing the County
8 Commissioners to create an entity or body to administer certain affairs relating to
9 volunteer fire, rescue, and emergency medical services companies; requiring the
10 County Commissioners under certain circumstances to establish an Emergency
11 Services Advisory Council for a certain purpose; making a technical correction;
12 making conforming changes; defining a certain term; and generally relating to
13 volunteer fire, rescue, and emergency medical services in Carroll County.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 The Public Local Laws of Carroll County
16 Section 3–206
17 Article 7 – Public Local Laws of Maryland
18 (2014 Edition and February 2017 Supplement, as amended)

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

21 **Article 7 – Carroll County**

22 3–206.

23 (a) **IN THIS SECTION, “EMERGENCY RESPONDER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL**
24 **WHO IS AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER MEMBER OF A FIRE, RESCUE, OR EMERGENCY**
25 **MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANY.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B)** The County Commissioners of Carroll County shall annually levy and collect
2 from the assessable property in Carroll County, as other taxes are levied and collected, a
3 sum of money that is needed for the County Commissioners to distribute and pay to the
4 volunteer fire, **RESCUE, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES** companies, except as
5 noted in subsection **[(b)] (C)** of this section, in the County for the support, maintenance,
6 equipment (including ambulances) and operation of the volunteer fire, **RESCUE, AND**
7 **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES** companies. The sum of money authorized by this
8 section shall be proportioned and distributed among the volunteer fire, **RESCUE, AND**
9 **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES** companies pursuant to a plan adopted by the executive
10 committee of the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association and approved
11 by the County Commissioners.

12 **[(b)] (C)** The County Commissioners shall provide service award payments from
13 a special fund to eligible volunteer **[firemen] EMERGENCY RESPONDERS** as certified by
14 the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association. The special fund shall be
15 established as an endowment. The payments shall be made to those individuals who have
16 met the adopted plan requirements as approved by the County Commissioners. The service
17 award payments may be made monthly by the County directly to eligible recipients.

18 **[(c)] (D)** The provisions of **[Article 95] TITLE 17 OF THE LOCAL**
19 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE** of the Annotated Code of Maryland and any other law that limits
20 the type of investments that may be made of County funds or that limits or places
21 conditions on the deposit of County funds do not apply to the deposit and investment of
22 money into the special fund under subsection **[(b)] (C)** of this section.

23 **(E) (1) THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY AUTHORIZE OR CREATE AN**
24 **ENTITY OR BODY WITH THE PURPOSE OF ADMINISTERING THE COUNTY'S AFFAIRS**
25 **RELATING TO FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND ASSOCIATED**
26 **ACTIVITIES WHILE MAINTAINING THE VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICES. THE**
27 **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT ORDINANCES AND OTHER**
28 **MEASURES NECESSARY TO ADEQUATELY AND APPROPRIATELY MANAGE, DIRECT,**
29 **AND REGULATE FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.**

30 **(2) IF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE OR CREATE AN**
31 **ENTITY UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE COUNTY**
32 **COMMISSIONERS SHALL ESTABLISH AN EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY**
33 **COUNCIL TO PROVIDE THE CARROLL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WITH**
34 **RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE OPERATIONS OF FIRE SUPPRESSION,**
35 **EMERGENCY MEDICAL, AND HAZ-MAT SERVICES IN CARROLL COUNTY.**

36 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
37 October 1, 2018.