Senate Bill 505  
By: Senators Robertson of the 29th, Mullis of the 53rd, Albers of the 56th, Miller of the 49th and Kirkpatrick of the 32nd  

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT  

To amend Code Sections 35-8-23, 38-3-181, and 46-5-138.2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to basic training course for communications officers, definitions relative to emergency communications authority, and "director" defined and training and instruction, respectively, so as to require that 9-1-1 communications officers receive training in the delivery of high-quality telephone cardiopulmonary resuscitation; to provide training requirements; to provide for compliance reviews; to provide for the establishment of continuing education units for communications officers; to provide for a definition; to require certain training for directors of public safety answering points; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.  

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:  

SECTION 1.  
Code Section 35-8-23 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to basic training course for communications officers, is amended by adding new subsections to read as follows:  
"(e)(1) On and after January 1, 2024, communications officers shall be required to successfully complete training in the delivery of high-quality telephone cardiopulmonary resuscitation; to provide training requirements; to provide for compliance reviews; to provide for the establishment of continuing education units for communications officers; to provide for a definition; to require certain training for directors of public safety answering points; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.
resuscitation (T-CPR) in addition to the basic training otherwise required by this Code section, and on or after that date no person shall be certified by the council under this Code section unless such person has satisfactorily completed such training; provided, however, that the requirements of this subsection shall be satisfied by any communications officer who is certified in emergency medical dispatch, as such term is defined in Code Section 38-3-181. Such training shall follow the most current evidence based nationally recognized guidelines for high-quality telephone cardiopulmonary resuscitation which incorporate recognition protocols for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest, compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and continuing education.

(2) The council shall conduct administrative compliance reviews with respect to the requirements of this subsection, including adherence by communications officers and local government agencies, and may adjust state assistance grants issued pursuant to Code Section 46-5-134.2 based on failure to comply with the requirements of this subsection.

(f) By January 1, 2024, the council, in coordination with the Georgia Emergency Communications Authority, shall establish an amount of continuing education units to be annually completed by communications officers. On or after January 1, 2025, no person shall be certified by the council under this Code section unless such person has satisfactorily completed such training."

SECTION 2.
Code Section 38-3-181 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to definitions relative to emergency communications authority, is amended by adding a new paragraph to read as follows:

"(2.1) 'Emergency medical dispatch' means the management of requests for emergency medical assistance by utilizing a system of:"
(A) A tiered response or priority dispatching of emergency medical resources based on the level of medical assistance appropriate for the victim; and

(B) Prearrival first aid or other medical instructions given by trained telecommunicators responsible for receiving 9-1-1 calls and dispatching public safety agencies.”

SECTION 3.

Code Section 46-5-138.2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to "director" defined and training and instruction, is amended by revising subsection (b) as follows:

"(b) In addition to any training required under federal or state law, any persons serving as becoming a director may on or after January 1, 2024, shall enroll in, attend, and complete satisfactorily a course of training and instruction on the management of public safety answering points and the establishment and operation of 9-1-1 systems. Such course of instruction for directors shall be developed and made available by the center subject to the availability and receipt of funding.”

SECTION 4.

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