

HOUSE BILL 140

C2

6lr1304
CF 6lr2325

By: **The Speaker (By Request – Department of Legislative Services)**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2016

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Security Systems Technicians and Agencies – Fees and Sunset Extension and**
3 **Program Evaluation**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the amount of the application fee for a license to engage in the
5 business of providing security systems services; requiring a certain applicant to pay
6 certain fees relating to a criminal history records check; altering the amount of a
7 certain processing fee for a certain applicant for a certain license; altering the
8 amount of a certain license renewal fee and a certain processing fee for a certain
9 applicant for renewal; altering the amount of a certain registration application fee;
10 altering the amount of a certain processing fee for a certain applicant for a certain
11 registration; altering the amount of a certain registration renewal fee and a certain
12 registration renewal processing fee; continuing the authority of the Secretary of
13 State Police to license and regulate security systems agencies in the State and
14 register security systems technicians and certain other individuals in accordance
15 with the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (Sunset Law) by extending to a certain
16 date the termination provisions relating to the statutory and regulation authority of
17 the Secretary; requiring that a preliminary evaluation of the program to license and
18 regulate security systems technicians and agencies and the statutes and regulations
19 that relate to the program be conducted in a certain year; and generally relating to
20 security systems technicians and agencies.

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
22 Article – Business Occupations and Professions
23 Section 18–303, 18–307, 18–3A–03, 18–3A–07, and 18–701
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

26 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
27 Article – State Government
28 Section 8–403(a)
29 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – State Government
Section 8–403(b)(52)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

Article – Business Occupations and Professions

18–303.

(a) An applicant for a license shall:

(1) submit to the Secretary an application on the form that the Secretary provides;

(2) submit the documents required by this section; and

(3) pay to the Secretary:

(I) an application fee of [\$150 which shall include the cost of the Maryland and national criminal records check] **\$250;**

(II) THE FEE AUTHORIZED UNDER § 10–221(B)(7) OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE FOR ACCESS TO MARYLAND CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS; AND

(III) THE MANDATORY PROCESSING FEE REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOR A NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK.

(b) The application form provided by the Secretary shall contain a statement advising the applicant that willfully making a false statement on an application is a misdemeanor, subject to a fine or imprisonment or both, as provided under § 18–504 of this title.

(c) If the applicant is a firm, the representative member shall complete the application form and otherwise be responsible for the firm's compliance with this section.

(d) (1) The application shall be accompanied by at least two written recommendations for the applicant.

1 (2) Each recommendation shall be signed, under oath, by a reputable
2 citizen of the State.

3 (e) (1) An applicant for a license shall submit with the application a set of
4 legible fingerprints of the applicant on a form approved by the Criminal Justice Information
5 System Central Repository and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

6 (2) If the applicant is a firm, the applicant shall pay the cost of the
7 fingerprint card records check for each firm member.

8 (f) An applicant for a license shall submit with the application a copy of a bond
9 or proof of insurance in accordance with the requirements of § 18–401 of this title.

10 (g) The Secretary may waive the requirements of subsections (a)(2) and (3), (d),
11 and (e) of this section and issue a license to an applicant who:

12 (1) provides adequate evidence that the applicant:

13 (i) is licensed to engage in the business of providing security
14 systems services in another state; and

15 (ii) became licensed in the other state:

16 1. after meeting qualifications that are at least equivalent to
17 those required in this State; and

18 2. after submitting to a State and national criminal records
19 check; and

20 (2) pays to the Secretary a processing fee of [~~\$150~~] **\$250**.

21 18–307.

22 (a) By regulation, the Secretary shall stagger the terms of the licenses.

23 (b) Unless a license is renewed for a 3–year term as provided in this section, the
24 license expires on the date the Secretary sets.

25 (c) At least 1 month before a license expires, the Secretary shall mail to the
26 agency, at the last known address of the agency:

27 (1) a renewal application form; and

28 (2) a notice that states:

29 (i) the date on which the current license expires;

1 (ii) that the Secretary must receive the renewal application and
2 proof of insurance or bonding as required in § 18–401 of this title at least 15 days before
3 the license expiration date for the renewal to be issued and mailed before the license
4 expires;

5 (iii) the amount of the renewal fee;

6 (iv) that, if the complete renewal application and proof of insurance
7 or bonding as required in § 18–401 of this title are not received at least 15 days before the
8 license expiration date, a fee of \$25 per day shall be charged against the agency until the
9 day the license expires, at which time the agency shall be considered closed;

10 (v) that an agency may not be issued a license under this title until
11 all outstanding obligations are satisfied with the Secretary; and

12 (vi) that the submission of a false statement in the renewal
13 application or the submission of altered or false documents that are otherwise required is
14 cause for revocation of the agency license.

15 (d) An agency periodically may renew the license for an additional 3–year term,
16 if the license holder:

17 (1) otherwise is entitled to be licensed;

18 (2) pays to the Secretary:

19 (i) a renewal fee of **[\$100] UP TO \$175**;

20 (ii) the fee authorized under § 10–221(b)(7) of the Criminal
21 Procedure Article for access to Maryland criminal history records;

22 (iii) the mandatory processing fee required by the Federal Bureau of
23 Investigation for a national criminal history records check; and

24 (iv) any late fee required under this subtitle; and

25 (3) submits to the Secretary:

26 (i) a renewal application on the form the Secretary provides;

27 (ii) two complete sets of the applicant’s legible fingerprints taken on
28 forms approved by the Director of the Central Repository and the Director of the Federal
29 Bureau of Investigation; and

30 (iii) satisfactory evidence of compliance with any other requirements
31 under this section for renewal of registration.

1 (e) In accordance with §§ 10–201 through 10–235 of the Criminal Procedure
2 Article, the Central Repository shall forward to the applicant and the Department of State
3 Police a printed statement of the applicant’s criminal history records information.

4 (f) The Secretary may waive the national criminal history records check required
5 under subsection (d) of this section for an applicant who was issued a license under §
6 18–303(g) of this subtitle if the applicant pays to the Secretary a processing fee of **[\$100]**
7 **UP TO \$175**.

8 (g) If the renewal application was submitted as required in subsection (d) of this
9 section and the national criminal history records check required under this section is not
10 completed before the licensee’s license expires, the Secretary shall allow the licensee to
11 operate in a temporary license status if the licensee otherwise meets the requirements of
12 this section.

13 (h) A licensee may operate in a temporary license status at the time of renewal
14 only if the renewal application and all required documents and fees were submitted by the
15 expiration date of the license.

16 (i) The temporary license status shall expire at the earlier of:

17 (1) the completion of the national criminal history records check of the
18 applicant; or

19 (2) the renewal or denial of the license.

20 (j) The Secretary shall renew the license of each applicant who meets the
21 requirements of this section.

22 18–3A–03.

23 (a) An applicant for registration shall:

24 (1) submit to the Secretary an application on the form that the Secretary
25 provides;

26 (2) submit the documents required by this section; and

27 (3) pay to the Secretary:

28 (i) an application fee that is the higher of **[\$15] \$25** or an amount
29 the Secretary determines based on actual processing costs; and

30 (ii) the cost of any background checks.

31 (b) The application form provided by the Secretary shall contain a statement
32 advising the applicant that willfully making a false statement on an application is a

1 misdemeanor, subject to a fine or imprisonment or both, as provided under § 18–504 of this
2 title.

3 (c) An applicant for registration shall submit with the application a set of legible
4 fingerprints of the applicant on forms approved by the Criminal Justice Information
5 System Central Repository and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

6 (d) The Secretary may waive the requirements of this section and register an
7 applicant who:

8 (1) provides adequate evidence that the applicant:

9 (i) is licensed in another state to engage in the business of providing
10 security systems services or registered in another state as a security systems technician or
11 other individual who has access to circumventational information; and

12 (ii) became licensed or registered in the other state:

13 1. after meeting qualifications that are at least equivalent to
14 those required in this State; and

15 2. after submitting to a State and national criminal records
16 check; and

17 (2) pays to the Secretary a processing fee that is the higher of **[\$15] \$25** or
18 an amount the Secretary determines based on actual processing costs.

19 (e) A minor in an apprenticeship program approved by the Department of Labor,
20 Licensing, and Regulation or a cooperative education program established under §
21 18–3A–02 of this subtitle is not required to meet the criminal background check and
22 fingerprint requirements of this section.

23 18–3A–07.

24 (a) By regulation, the Secretary shall stagger the terms of the registrations under
25 this subtitle.

26 (b) Unless a registration is renewed for a 3–year term as provided in this section,
27 the registration expires on the date the Secretary sets.

28 (c) At least 90 days before a registration expires, the applicant shall deliver to the
29 Secretary:

30 (1) a renewal application form;

31 (2) the amount of the renewal fee; and

1 (3) the amount of any late fee, as determined by the Secretary.

2 (d) An individual periodically may renew a registration for an additional 3-year
3 term if the individual:

4 (1) otherwise is entitled to be registered;

5 (2) pays to the Secretary:

6 (i) a renewal fee that is the higher of ~~[\$15]~~ **\$25** or an amount which
7 the Secretary determines based on the actual processing costs;

8 (ii) the fee authorized under § 10-221(b)(7) of the Criminal
9 Procedure Article for access to Maryland criminal history records;

10 (iii) the mandatory processing fee required by the Federal Bureau of
11 Investigation for a national criminal history records check; and

12 (iv) any late fee required under this subtitle; and

13 (3) submits to the Secretary:

14 (i) a renewal application on the form the Secretary provides;

15 (ii) two complete sets of the applicant's legible fingerprints taken on
16 forms approved by the Director of the Central Repository and the Director of the Federal
17 Bureau of Investigation; and

18 (iii) satisfactory evidence of compliance with any other requirements
19 under this section for renewal of registration.

20 (e) In accordance with §§ 10-201 through 10-235 of the Criminal Procedure
21 Article, the Central Repository shall forward to the applicant and the Department of State
22 Police a printed statement of the applicant's criminal history records information.

23 (f) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, if a complete application for
24 renewal of registration as required under this subtitle is not received by the Secretary at
25 least 30 calendar days before the certification expires, the Secretary shall assess a late fee
26 of \$5 per day until the application is received by the Secretary.

27 (2) The total amount of late fees assessed under this subsection may not
28 exceed \$150.

29 (3) The Secretary may not register any applicant under this title if the
30 applicant has outstanding late fee obligations.

1 (g) The Secretary may waive the national criminal history records check required
2 under subsection (d) of this section for an applicant who was registered under § 18-3A-03
3 of this subtitle if the applicant pays to the Secretary a processing fee of [~~\$15~~] **\$25**.

4 (h) If the renewal application was submitted as required under this section and
5 the national criminal history records check required under this section is not completed
6 before a registration expires, the Secretary shall allow the applicant to operate in a
7 temporary registration status if the applicant otherwise meets the requirements of this
8 section.

9 (i) The temporary registration status shall expire at the earlier of:

10 (1) the completion of the national criminal history records check of the
11 applicant; or

12 (2) the renewal or denial of the registration.

13 (j) (1) The Secretary shall renew the registration of each individual who meets
14 the requirements of this section.

15 (2) Within 5 days after the Secretary refuses to renew the registration of
16 an individual under this title, the Secretary shall send written notice of the refusal to the
17 individual who submitted the renewal application.

18 18-701.

19 Subject to the evaluation and reestablishment provisions of the Maryland Program
20 Evaluation Act, this title and all regulations adopted under this title shall terminate and
21 be of no further force and effect after July 1, [~~2016~~] **2021**.

22 Article – State Government

23 8-403.

24 (a) On or before December 15 of the evaluation year specified, the Department
25 shall:

26 (1) conduct a preliminary evaluation of each governmental activity or unit
27 to be evaluated under this section; and

28 (2) prepare a report on each preliminary evaluation conducted.

29 (b) Each of the following governmental activities or units and the statutes and
30 regulations that relate to the governmental activities or units are subject to preliminary
31 evaluation in the evaluation year specified:

1 (52) security systems technicians, licensing and regulation of (§ 18–201 of
2 the Business Occupations and Professions Article: **[2013] 2018**);

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
4 1, 2016.