

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 679

(Delegate Jackson)

Economic Matters

Education, Energy, and the Environment

Security Systems Technicians - Applicants - Authority to Practice

This bill authorizes an individual who has submitted an application to the Secretary of State Police for registration as a security systems technician and received an application number that confirms receipt *and* the individual’s application has not been rejected, to (1) personally provide security systems services; (2) be employed with access to circumventational information by a security systems agency; and (3) be provided access to circumventational information by a security systems agency or a security systems technician.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially affect State finances or operations; the Department of State Police advises that the bill generally conforms statute to current practice.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: “Circumventational information” means information, including pass codes, that allows an individual to alter the operation of a security system. “Circumventational information” does not include generic user or installation manuals.

Chapter 362 of 1994 established licensing of security systems agencies and Chapter 520 of 1997 established registration of security systems technicians in the State. The Maryland State Police, through its Licensing Division, administers the regulation of security systems

agencies and technicians. In order to perform security systems services, an individual registered as a security systems technician must work for a licensed security systems agency. Each applicant for a license or a registration must undergo a criminal history records check, be age 18 or older, and be of good moral character. The registration for a security systems technician is generally three years, and the initial application and renewal fee for registration as a security systems technician is \$15, plus the cost of any criminal history records checks. An applicant for an agency license must also carry a fidelity bond or maintain general liability insurance for at least \$50,000.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 713 (Senator Kramer) - Education, Energy, and the Environment.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Labor; Department of State Police; Department of Legislative Services

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