

SENATE BILL 786

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1999 Regular Session  
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By: **Senator Bromwell**

Introduced and read first time: March 8, 1999

Assigned to: Rules

Re-referred to: Economic and Environmental Affairs, March 11, 1999

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Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 23, 1999

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Security Systems Technicians - Registration Requirements and Procedures**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing a requirement that an applicant seeking to register as  
4 a security systems technician provide certain recommendations; allowing a  
5 person seeking to renew a registration as a security systems technician to  
6 submit payment for certain criminal records check costs to a licensed security  
7 systems agency for forwarding to the Secretary of the State Police; providing  
8 that the Secretary of the State Police may refuse to issue a temporary  
9 registration as a security systems technician to an individual if the issuance  
10 would result in a potential threat to public safety; providing that an individual  
11 who obtains a temporary registration as a security systems technician shall  
12 receive a certain form of identification from the Secretary of the State Police;  
13 authorizing the Secretary of the State Police to create an advisory panel to  
14 conduct certain hearings on behalf of the Secretary; providing for the application  
15 of this Act; and generally relating to the registration requirements and  
16 procedures for security systems technicians.

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
18 Article - Business Occupations and Professions  
19 Section 18-3A-03, 18-3A-04, 18-3A-05, 18-3A-07, 18-3A-08, and 18-3A-10  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

1 **Article - Business Occupations and Professions**

2 18-3A-03.

3 (a) An applicant for registration shall:

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

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

7 (3) pay to the Secretary:

8 (i) an application fee that is the higher of \$15 or an amount the  
9 Secretary determines based on actual processing costs; and

10 (ii) the cost of any background checks.

11 (b) The application form provided by the Secretary shall contain a statement  
12 advising the applicant that willfully making a false statement on an application is a  
13 misdemeanor, subject to a fine or imprisonment or both, as provided under § 18-504  
14 of this title.15 [(c) (1) The application shall be accompanied by at least two written  
16 recommendations for the applicant.17 (2) Each recommendation shall be signed, under oath, by a reputable  
18 citizen of the State.]19 [(d)] (C) An applicant for registration shall submit with the application a set  
20 of legible fingerprints of the applicant on forms approved by the Criminal Justice  
21 Information System Central Repository and the Director of the Federal Bureau of  
22 Investigation.23 [(e)] (D) The Secretary may waive the requirements of this section and  
24 register an applicant who:

25 (1) provides adequate evidence that the applicant:

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

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

31 1. after meeting qualifications that are at least equivalent to  
32 those required in this State; and33 2. after submitting to a State and national criminal records  
34 check; and

1 (2) pays to the Secretary a processing fee that is the higher of \$15 or an  
2 amount the Secretary determines based on actual processing costs.

3 18-3A-04.

4 (a) Except for registration under [§ 18-3A-03(e)] § 18-3A-03(D) of this  
5 subtitle, the Secretary shall conduct a State and national criminal records check of an  
6 applicant before registering the applicant.

7 (b) An applicant shall pay to the Secretary the cost of any background checks  
8 before the applicant may be registered.

9 18-3A-05.

10 (a) The Secretary shall register each applicant who meets the requirements of  
11 this subtitle.

12 (b) The Secretary shall include on each registration that the Secretary issues:

- 13 (1) the full name of the registrant;
- 14 (2) the current address of the registrant;
- 15 (3) the date of issuance of the registration; and
- 16 (4) the date on which the registration expires.

17 (c) [The] FOR ALL REGISTRATIONS OTHER THAN TEMPORARY  
18 REGISTRATIONS, THE Secretary shall issue to each registrant a pocket identification  
19 card that includes:

- 20 (1) a photograph of the registrant, supplied by the registrant; and
- 21 (2) the expiration date of the registrant's registration.

22 (d) Each registrant shall give the Secretary written notice of any change of  
23 address within 10 business days after the change.

24 18-3A-07.

25 (a) Unless a registration is renewed for a 2-year term as provided in this  
26 section, the registration expires on April 1 of the first odd-numbered year after the  
27 effective date of the registration.

28 (b) At least 1 month before a registration expires, the Secretary shall mail to  
29 the registrant, at the last known address of the registrant:

- 30 (1) a renewal application form; and
- 31 (2) a notice that states:

1 (i) the date on which the current registration expires;  
2 (ii) the date by which the Secretary must receive the renewal  
3 application for the renewal to be issued and mailed before the registration expires;  
4 and

5 (iii) the amount of the renewal fee.

6 (c) Before the registration expires, the registrant periodically may renew it for  
7 an additional 2-year term, if the registrant:

8 (1) otherwise is entitled to be registered;

9 (2) pays to the Secretary a renewal fee that is the higher of \$15 or an  
10 amount the Secretary determines based on actual processing costs;

11 (3) pays the cost of any background checks; [and]

12 (4) IF A NATIONAL CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK IS REQUIRED, PAYS TO  
13 THE SECRETARY OR TO THE LICENSED SECURITY SYSTEMS AGENCY WHICH  
14 EMPLOYS OR INTENDS TO EMPLOY THE REGISTRANT AS A SECURITY SYSTEMS  
15 TECHNICIAN, FOR FORWARDING TO THE SECRETARY, THE MANDATORY PROCESSING  
16 FEE REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOR THE RECORDS  
17 CHECK; AND

18 [(4)] (5) submits to the Secretary:

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

20 (ii) a set of legible fingerprints of the registrant on forms approved  
21 by the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository and the Director of  
22 the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

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

25 (d) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, the Secretary shall  
26 conduct a [State and] national criminal records check for each registrant who applies  
27 for a renewal of registration.

28 (e) The Secretary may waive the [State and] national criminal records check  
29 required under subsection (d) of this section for a registrant who was registered under  
30 this subtitle, if the registrant:

31 (1) provides adequate evidence that:

32 (i) the registrant's license or registration issued by another state  
33 was renewed by that other state within 1 year of the expiration date of the license or  
34 registration issued under this title; and

1 (ii) the renewal occurred after the registrant submitted to a [state  
2 and] national criminal records check; and

3 (2) pays to the Secretary a processing fee of \$15.

4 (f) If the [State and] national criminal records check required under  
5 subsection (d) of this section is not completed before a registration expires, the  
6 Secretary shall issue a temporary registration to a registrant who otherwise meets  
7 the requirement of this section.

8 (g) A temporary registration issued under subsection (f) of this section shall  
9 expire at the earlier of:

10 (1) the completion of the [State and] national criminal records check of  
11 the registrant; and

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

13 (h) The Secretary shall renew the registration of each registrant who meets  
14 the requirements of this section.

15 18-3A-08.

16 (a) (1) [The] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE  
17 Secretary shall temporarily register any individual who:

18 [(1)] (I) does not have the training required under § 18-3A-02(b) of this  
19 subtitle but otherwise meets the requirements for registration under this title; or

20 [(2)] (II) does not have the State and national criminal records check  
21 required under § 18-3A-04(a) of this subtitle.

22 (2) IF THE SECRETARY DETERMINES AFTER A PRELIMINARY  
23 BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION THAT THE ISSUANCE OF A TEMPORARY  
24 REGISTRATION TO AN INDIVIDUAL WOULD RESULT IN A POTENTIAL THREAT TO  
25 PUBLIC SAFETY, THE SECRETARY MAY REFUSE TO TEMPORARILY REGISTER THAT  
26 INDIVIDUAL.

27 (b) Temporary registration of a registrant under this section shall expire at  
28 the earlier of:

29 (1) if the temporary registration was issued pursuant to subsection (a)(1)  
30 of this section, acquisition by the registrant of the training required under §  
31 18-3A-02(b) of this subtitle; or

32 (2) if the temporary registration was issued pursuant to subsection (a)(2)  
33 of this section, completion of the State and national criminal records check required  
34 under § 18-3A-04(a) of this subtitle.

35 (c) An applicant obtaining temporary registration under this section:

1 (1) shall receive a [temporary registration pocket identification card  
2 with the applicant's photograph] FORM OF IDENTIFICATION AS DETERMINED BY THE  
3 SECRETARY; and

4 (2) shall work under the supervision of an individual who has met the  
5 requirements of §§ 18-3A-02, 18-3A-03, and 18-3A-04 of this subtitle and is  
6 registered under § 18-3A-05 of this subtitle.

7 18-3A-10.

8 (a) Before the Secretary takes any final action under § 18-3A-09 of this  
9 subtitle, the Secretary shall give the individual against whom the action is  
10 contemplated an opportunity for EITHER:

11 (1) a hearing before the Secretary; OR

12 (2) A HEARING BEFORE AN ADVISORY PANEL CONSISTING OF THE  
13 FOLLOWING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY:

14 (I) A MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE;

15 (II) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECURITY SYSTEMS INDUSTRY;

16 AND

17 (III) THREE MEMBERS REPRESENTING CONSUMERS.

18 (b) The Secretary OR THE ADVISORY PANEL shall give notice and hold the  
19 hearing in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article.

20 (c) The hearing notice to be given to the individual shall be sent by certified  
21 mail to the last known address of the individual at least 10 business days before the  
22 hearing.

23 (d) The Secretary OR THE ADVISORY PANEL may administer oaths in  
24 connection with any proceeding under this section.

25 (e) The individual may be represented at the hearing by counsel.

26 (f) If, after due notice, the individual against whom the action is  
27 contemplated fails or refuses to appear, the Secretary OR THE ADVISORY PANEL may,  
28 nevertheless, hear and determine the matter.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be  
30 construed only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect  
31 on or application to any registrations or registration renewals for security systems  
32 technicians submitted to the Secretary before the effective date of this Act.

33 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
34 October 1, 1999.

