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By: **Delegate Ross**

Introduced and read first time: February 22, 2006

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Verified Responses of Alarm Signals**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on Verified Responses of Alarm Signals;  
4 providing for certain membership, duties, and staffing of the Task Force;  
5 providing for the designation of the chair of the Task Force; requiring the Task  
6 Force to issue a certain report by a certain date; prohibiting a member of the  
7 Task Force from receiving certain compensation; authorizing a member of the  
8 Task Force to receive certain reimbursements; providing for the termination of  
9 this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force on Verified Responses of Alarm  
10 Signals.

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
12 MARYLAND, That:

13 (a) There is a Task Force on Verified Responses of Alarm Signals.

14 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

15 (1) three members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President  
16 of the Senate;

17 (2) three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker  
18 of the House;

19 (3) the Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee; and

20 (4) the following members appointed by the Governor:

21 (i) three representatives of home security companies that operate  
22 in the State; and

23 (ii) four representatives of local law enforcement agencies from  
24 different geographical areas of the State.

25 (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

26 (d) The Office of the Attorney General shall provide staff for the Task Force.

1 (e) A member of the Task Force:

2 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

3 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
4 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

5 (f) The Task Force shall:

6 (1) study the impact of requiring home security companies to verify  
7 responses to alarm signals on home security companies, law enforcement, and the  
8 general public, including:

9 (i) the impact on the response times of law enforcement to alarm  
10 calls; and

11 (ii) the impact on the number of false alarms responded to by law  
12 enforcement; and

13 (2) make recommendations regarding the feasibility of requiring home  
14 security companies to verify the validity of alarm signals before a law enforcement  
15 unit or fire department responds to an alarm signal.

16 (g) On or before December 31, 2007, the Task Force shall report its findings  
17 and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State  
18 Government Article, the General Assembly.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
20 June 1, 2006. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of May  
21 31, 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
22 abrogated and of no further force and effect.