

Chapter 206

(Senate Bill 662)

AN ACT concerning

Business Regulation – Wireless Security Systems – Local Government Licenses and Permits

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a local government from requiring a license or permit, including a certain license, to install, maintain, inspect, replace, or service certain wireless security systems; authorizing a local government to require providers and operators of wireless security systems to comply with certain ordinances and obtain certain registrations or permits; prohibiting a local government from requiring providers and operators of wireless security systems to obtain electrical permits; providing that wireless security systems are not exempt from certain laws; requiring wireless security systems to meet certain State and local codes; defining certain terms; and generally relating to licenses and permits by a local government for wireless security systems.

BY adding to

Article – Business Regulation

Section 19–901 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 9. Security Systems”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2015 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

Article – Business Regulation

SUBTITLE 9. SECURITY SYSTEMS.

19–901.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) (I) “SECURITY SYSTEM” MEANS ANY BURGLARY ALARM SYSTEM OR ROBBERY ALARM SYSTEM.

(II) “SECURITY SYSTEM” INCLUDES THE SERVICE OF MONITORING THE PROPERTY TO WHICH A SECURITY SYSTEM IS ATTACHED IN CASE OF AN ALARM SOUNDING.

(3) (I) “WIRELESS SECURITY SYSTEM” MEANS A SECURITY SYSTEM THAT IS DESIGNED TO CARRY A VOLTAGE OF 50 VOLTS OR LESS AND NOT HARDWIRED.

(II) “WIRELESS SECURITY SYSTEM” INCLUDES ANCILLARY LOW-VOLTAGE COMPONENTS THAT ARE EITHER WIRELESS OR BATTERY-OPERATED AND SUPPLEMENTARY SMOKE DETECTORS AS DEFINED IN THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION 72: NATIONAL FIRE ALARM AND SIGNALING CODE.

(B) IF A WIRELESS SECURITY SYSTEM DOES NOT REQUIRE THE SUBMISSION OF A FIRE PROTECTION PLAN REVIEW TO A LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE OR A LOCAL BUILDING CODE, A LOCAL GOVERNMENT MAY NOT REQUIRE A AN ELECTRICAL LICENSE OR AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT TO INSTALL, MAINTAIN, INSPECT, REPLACE, OR SERVICE THE WIRELESS SECURITY SYSTEM.

(C) (1) A LOCAL GOVERNMENT MAY:

(I) REQUIRE A PERSON WHO PROVIDES WIRELESS SECURITY SYSTEMS TO COMPLY WITH A LOCAL ALARM ORDINANCE OR OBTAIN AN ALARM BUSINESS REGISTRATION OR PERMIT; AND

(II) REQUIRE A PERSON WHO OPERATES WIRELESS SECURITY SYSTEMS OR CAUSES WIRELESS SECURITY SYSTEMS TO BE OPERATED TO COMPLY WITH A LOCAL ALARM ORDINANCE OR OBTAIN AN ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION OR PERMIT.

(2) A LOCAL GOVERNMENT MAY NOT REQUIRE A PERSON DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO OBTAIN AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT.

(D) WIRELESS SECURITY SYSTEMS ARE NOT EXEMPT FROM TITLE 18 OF THE BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS ARTICLE.

(E) WIRELESS SECURITY SYSTEMS MUST COMPLY WITH ANY STATE OR LOCAL BUILDING CODES.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2018.

Approved by the Governor, April 24, 2018.