

## Written Testimony

Chris Heaton, Vice President of Advocacy & Public Affairs

RE: SB 762

To The Honorable Chair and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Electronic Security Association, I wish to submit our support for SB 762 with amendments that will clarify what is meant by “low-voltage electrician” or “limited energy integrator” as we believe the term should be defined.

Without defining what “low-voltage” is, it will be impossible for authorities having jurisdiction (AHJ) or low-voltage integrators themselves to know whether they are exempt under this licensing framework. We feel it is important that ALL legislators know the underlying intent may be to undermine an entire segment of companies that do business in Maryland. Given the time, we will certainly make the case with members of the House and Senate that excluding the definition of “low-voltage” necessarily undermines low-voltage integrators in the state.

We respectfully submit our support for this legislation that includes the following definition for “limited energy integrators” which we believe should be the proper term used for “low-voltage electrician”.

“Limited energy integrator” means an individual who has the experience, knowledge, and skill to provide limited energy services on the load side of a transformer, which is connected directly by a licensed electrician or by plugging into an existing receptacle. Voltage is not to exceed 100 VAC or VDC unless listed to prevent hazards to life and property. Installation in a manner that complies with applicable plans, specifications, codes, or laws.

ESA is the largest trade association in the United States representing large and small businesses that professionally install, service and monitor electronic security and life safety systems for the public. ESA member companies represent more than 70 percent of the market for intrusion, fire alarm, access control and video surveillance systems, which are a vital component of public safety. They employ over 5000,000 security industry professionals, and service millions of residential and commercial clients. ESA has approximately 2,000 members across all 50 states, U.S. Territories, Canada and several countries.