

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
Legislative Session 2020, Legislative Day No. 2

Bill No. 4-20

All Councilmembers

By the County Council, January 21, 2020

A BILL
ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Voluntary Private Security or Surveillance Camera Registration Program

FOR the purpose of creating a Voluntary Private Security or Surveillance Camera Registration Program; providing for certain incentives for registration; providing for registration requirements; providing for certain restrictions for obtaining and using the Program; authorizing the adoption of certain regulations; providing for the application of the Act; and generally relating to a Voluntary Private Security or Surveillance Camera Registration Program.

BY adding

Section 13-11-301 through ~~304~~ 305
Article 13 - Public Health, Safety, and the Environment
Title 11 - Alarms
Subtitle 3 - Voluntary Private Security or Surveillance Camera Registration Program
Baltimore County Code, 2015

1

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from bill.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE
2 COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Laws of Baltimore County read as follows:

3
4 ARTICLE 13 - PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

5 Title 11 - Alarms

6 SUBTITLE 3 - VOLUNTARY PRIVATE SECURITY OR SURVEILLANCE

7 CAMERA REGISTRATION PROGRAM

8
9 § 13-11-301.

10 THERE IS A VOLUNTARY PRIVATE SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE
11 CAMERA REGISTRATION PROGRAM.

12
13 § 13-11-302.

14 (A) COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS WHO
15 USE PRIVATE SECURITY OR SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS TO MONITOR THEIR REAL
16 PROPERTY ARE ENCOURAGED TO UTILIZE AT LEAST ONE SUCH CAMERA
17 POINTED TOWARD A PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY, AND TO REGISTER THE LOCATION
18 OF ~~THAT CAMERA~~ THEIR CAMERAS WITH THE COUNTY.

19 (B) A COMMERCIAL OR RESIDENTIAL PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNER MAY
20 REGISTER THEIR PRIVATE SECURITY OR SURVEILLANCE CAMERA ON A WRITTEN
21 FORM PROVIDED BY THE OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE OR THROUGH AN
22 ONLINE FORM ON THE COUNTY'S WEBSITE.

23 (C) PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS THAT VOLUNTARILY REGISTER A

1 PRIVATE SECURITY OR SURVEILLANCE CAMERA WILL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING
2 INCENTIVES FOR DOING SO:

3 (1) THE COUNTY WILL WAIVE THE ALARM PERMIT FEE FOR THE
4 INSTALLATION OF A NEW ALARM SYSTEM THAT INCLUDES PRIVATE SECURITY
5 OR SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS OR THE UPGRADE OF A CURRENT ALARM SYSTEM
6 THAT INCLUDES SUCH CAMERAS; AND

7 (2) PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROGRAM WILL BE PERMITTED ~~TWO~~ ONE
8 ADDITIONAL FALSE ALARM ~~WAIVERS~~ WAIVER IN A CALENDAR YEAR.

9 (D) TO PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF SURROUNDING PRIVATE PROPERTY
10 OWNERS, REGISTRATION SHALL REQUIRE THAT THE PROPERTY OWNER CERTIFY
11 THAT THE CAMERA IS LOCATED WHOLLY ON THEIR PROPERTY, ~~AND SHALL AT~~
12 ~~NO TIME WHILE REGISTERED BE POSITIONED SO AS TO MONITOR PRIVATE~~
13 ~~PROPERTY OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY ON WHICH IT IS LOCATED.~~

14
15 § 13-11-303.

16 (A) ~~(A)~~ REGISTRATION RECORDS SHALL BE KEPT BY THE OFFICE OF
17 BUDGET AND FINANCE AND SHALL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL TO THE EXTENT
18 PERMITTED BY LAW.

19 ~~(B)~~ (B) UPON OBTAINING ANY FOOTAGE OR DATA UNDER THIS SUBTITLE,
20 SUCH FOOTAGE OR DATA SHALL BE ~~TREATED AS IF IT HAD BEEN OBTAINED~~
21 ~~FROM A CAMERA OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE COUNTY~~ UTILIZED TO
22 FURTHER A LAW ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATION AND SHALL BE KEPT
23 CONFIDENTIAL TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

1 ~~(B) REGISTRATION RECORDS AND ANY CAMERA FOOTAGE OR DATA~~
2 ~~VOLUNTARILY REQUESTED AND OBTAINED THEREFROM SHALL BE UTILIZED~~
3 ~~ONLY TO FURTHER A LEGITIMATE LAW ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATION.~~

4 ~~(C) THE COUNTY SHALL NOT SOLICIT OR USE FOOTAGE OR DATA FROM~~
5 ~~PRIVATE SECURITY OR SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS WITH SUCH REGULARITY OR~~
6 ~~IN SUCH A WAY AS TO EFFECTIVELY VIOLATE ANY PERSON'S PRIVACY OR TO~~
7 ~~EFFECTIVELY CIRCUMVENT STATE OR FEDERAL PRIVACY LAWS OR~~
8 ~~REGULATIONS.~~

9
10 § 13-11-304.

11 TO PROMOTE AND ENSURE THE CONTINUED ACCURACY OF THE CAMERA
12 LOCATION, REGISTRATION SHALL AUTOMATICALLY EXPIRE AFTER TWO YEARS,
13 AFTER WHICH THE PROPERTY OWNER MAY RENEW THE REGISTRATION IN THE
14 SAME MANNER AS SET FORTH IN § 13-11-302.

15
16 § 13-11-305.

17 THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE, IN
18 CONSULTATION WITH THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION
19 TECHNOLOGY AND THE CHIEF OF POLICE, MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS IN
20 ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3, TITLE 7 OF THE CODE IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT
21 THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that the Voluntary Private Security or
2 Surveillance Camera Registration Program established under Article 13, Title 11, Subtitle 3 of
3 the Baltimore County Code, 2015 shall begin registering cameras not more than six months from
4 the effective date of this Act.

5
6 SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this Act, having been passed by
7 the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, shall take effect on March ~~2~~ 16,
8 2020.