

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 1291

A bill to register and regulate certain providers of security alarm systems; to provide for the assessment of registration fees; and to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state departments, agencies, officers, and political subdivisions.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
2 "security alarm systems act".

3           Sec. 2. As used in this act:

4           (a) "Alarm system" means any mechanical or electrical device,  
5 including an electronic access control system, a video monitoring  
6 system, a burglar alarm system, smoke detectors, or any other  
7 electronic system that is designed to emit an audible alarm or  
8 transmit a signal or message to a central monitoring station if it

1 is activated and that is used to detect an unauthorized entry into  
2 a protected premises or alert other persons of the occurrence of a  
3 fire or medical emergency or the commission of an unlawful act  
4 against a person or in a protected premises. The term includes, but  
5 is not limited to, a silent, panic, holdup, robbery, duress,  
6 burglary, medical alert, or proprietor alarm that signals a central  
7 monitoring station.

8 (b) "Applicant" means a person for which a registration  
9 statement is filed under section 3.

10 (c) "Background check" means a criminal history check  
11 administered by a public or private entity that examines federal  
12 and state government records in a manner that allows for the  
13 successful identification of the criminal offenses listed in  
14 section 4(3)(c).

15 (d) "Department" means department of licensing and regulatory  
16 affairs.

17 (e) "Local unit of government" means a city, county, village,  
18 or township, or a special district designated by law that exercises  
19 limited government powers or powers in respect to limited  
20 government subjects.

21 (f) "Operator" means an employee or independent contractor who  
22 performs alarm operator, dispatcher, or monitor functions for a  
23 security alarm system at a central monitoring station. The term  
24 does not include a system user who receives signals or messages  
25 about his or her own security alarm system.

26 (g) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation,  
27 limited liability company, or other legal entity.

1 (h) "Protected premises" means a location at or in which a  
2 system user's security alarm system is installed and maintained.

3 (i) "Registrant" means a person that is registered by the  
4 department as a system provider.

5 (j) "Registration" means a registration that is issued by the  
6 department.

7 (k) "Remote monitoring" means the retransmission of  
8 information received from a security alarm system to a central  
9 monitoring system.

10 (l) "Security alarm system" means a detection device or an  
11 assembly of equipment and devices that transmits signals to a  
12 central monitoring station and is arranged to signal the presence  
13 of a hazard that requires urgent attention or to which police are  
14 expected to respond. The term includes any electronic system that  
15 transmits signals to a central monitoring station and monitors or  
16 records various components designed to detect or prevent  
17 burglaries, intrusions, theft, or robbery of the protected  
18 premises, including, but not limited to, an intrusion detection  
19 system, video monitoring or recording system, access control  
20 system, and 1-way or 2-way audio monitoring systems. The term does  
21 not include a fire alarm system or an alarm system that monitors  
22 temperature, humidity, or other condition that is not directly  
23 related to the detection or prevention of burglaries, intrusions,  
24 theft, or robbery of the protected premises.

25 (m) "System provider" means a person that engages in the  
26 business of selling, leasing, renting, maintaining, repairing,  
27 installing, or otherwise providing security alarm systems to the

1 public at the protected premises or by remote monitoring. The term  
2 does not include any of the following:

3 (i) A person that purchases, rents, or uses an alarm system  
4 that is affixed to a motor vehicle.

5 (ii) A person that owns or conducts a business of selling,  
6 leasing, renting, installing, maintaining, or monitoring an alarm  
7 system that is affixed to a motor vehicle.

8 (iii) An alarm system that is operated by this state, a  
9 political subdivision of this state, an agency or department of  
10 this state or a political subdivision of this state, or any other  
11 governmental agency or department.

12 (iv) A person that installs a nonmonitored alarm system for a  
13 business that the person owns, is employed by, or manages.

14 (v) A person that only manufactures or sells security alarm  
15 systems, unless that person services, installs, monitors, or  
16 responds to signals from security alarm systems at the protected  
17 premises.

18 (vi) A person that sells security alarm systems that are  
19 designed to be installed and monitored by any of the following:

20 (A) The customer, and not the person selling the security  
21 alarm system.

22 (B) An affiliate of or contractor to the person selling the  
23 security alarm system if the affiliate or contractor that installs  
24 at the protected premises or monitors the security alarm system is  
25 registered under this act.

26 (vii) A security alarm system contractor, as defined in section  
27 2 of the private security business and security alarm act, 1968 PA

1 330, MCL 338.1052, that is required to obtain a license under that  
2 act.

3 (n) "System user" means a person that uses a security alarm  
4 system at a protected premises or remotely.

5 Sec. 3. (1) A person shall not act as a system provider in  
6 this state without first doing both of the following:

7 (a) Filing a registration statement with the department that  
8 meets the requirements of section 4. A person that acts as a system  
9 provider in multiple locations in this state is only required to  
10 file 1 registration statement with the department.

11 (b) Meeting 1 of the following:

12 (i) Providing a bond to the department that is in the principal  
13 amount of \$25,000.00; is conditioned on the applicant's or  
14 registrant's compliance with this act; is acceptable to the  
15 department; and is for the benefit of the residents of this state.

16 (ii) Providing a policy of insurance to the department, in the  
17 amount of \$25,000.00 for property damages, \$100,000.00 for injury  
18 to or death of 1 person, and \$200,000.00 for injuries to or deaths  
19 of more than 1 person arising out of the operation of the licensed  
20 activity, that is issued by an insurer authorized to do business in  
21 this state and names the applicant or registrant and the state as  
22 coinsureds.

23 (iii) Demonstrating to the department that the applicant or  
24 registrant, or an affiliate of the applicant or registrant, is  
25 licensed as a basic local exchange provider under the Michigan  
26 telecommunications act, 1991 PA 179, MCL 484.2101 to 484.2603.

27 (iv) Demonstrating to the department that the applicant or

1 registrant, or an affiliate of the applicant or registrant, has  
2 annual revenue of \$10,000,000.00 or more.

3 (2) An individual injured by the willful, malicious, and  
4 wrongful act of an applicant or registrant, or any agent or  
5 employee of an applicant or registrant, may bring an action on a  
6 bond or insurance policy provided under subsection (1)(b) in his or  
7 her own name to recover damages suffered by reason of the wrongful  
8 act.

9 Sec. 4. (1) A registration statement filed with the department  
10 shall include a completed affidavit, submitted by the registrant or  
11 applicant and signed by an officer or another individual who is  
12 authorized to bind the registrant, that affirms all of the  
13 following:

14 (a) The registrant's or applicant's legal name and any name  
15 under which the registrant or applicant does or will do business in  
16 this state that is authorized by the department.

17 (b) The address and telephone number of the registrant's or  
18 applicant's principal place of business and contact information for  
19 the individual responsible for ongoing communications with the  
20 department.

21 (c) A description of the geographic areas in this state the  
22 registrant or applicant does or will serve.

23 (d) A description of the training the registrant will provide  
24 to its employees or independent contractors who are involved in  
25 installing or monitoring security alarm systems. The department may  
26 refuse to accept a registration statement if it determines that the  
27 training is not commercially reasonable considering the nature of

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1 the security alarm systems installed or monitored by the registrant  
2 or applicant.

3 (e) A description of the security alarm system services that  
4 the registrant or applicant does or will provide.

5 (f) That the registrant or applicant will file an updated  
6 registration statement annually, or sooner if a material change to  
7 the information occurs.

8 (2) A registrant, applicant, or affiliate [or contractor described  
9 in section 2(m)(vi)(B)] shall conduct a background check of each  
10 employee or independent contractor of the registrant, applicant, [affiliate, or  
11 contractor]  
12 who, in the normal course of [his or her employment or engagement],  
13 enters a customer's premises to sell, lease, rent, maintain, repair, install, or  
14 otherwise provide a security alarm system at a protected premises.  
15 The background check required under this subsection shall include  
16 the taking of fingerprints of the employee [or independent contractor]  
17 and submission of those fingerprints to the department of state police or the federal  
18 bureau of investigation for the purpose of a criminal history  
19 record search. However, a registrant[, applicant, affiliate, or  
20 contractor] is not required to submit the fingerprints of an employee [or independent contractor]  
21 under this subsection if the employee's [or independent contractor's] fingerprints were previously  
22 submitted for the purpose of a criminal history record search for the purposes of  
23 meeting the requirements of a regulatory authority in another state  
24 and the registrant[, applicant, affiliate, or contractor] has the results  
25 of that submission.

26 (3) An applicant, registrant, or affiliate [or contractor described  
27 in section 2(m)(vi)(B)] shall not employ or engage, or continue to employ  
or engage, an individual for whom a background check is required under  
subsection (2) if he or she meets any of the following:

1 (a) Is not at least 18 years old.

2 (b) Does not have a high school diploma or a general education  
3 development (GED) certificate or its equivalent.

4 (c) His or her background check under subsection (2) discloses  
5 any of the following:

6 (i) He or she was convicted of a felony.

7 (ii) Within the 5-year period preceding the date of the  
8 background check, he or she was convicted of a misdemeanor  
9 involving any of the following:

10 (A) Dishonesty or fraud.

11 (B) Unauthorized divulging or selling of information or  
12 evidence.

13 (C) Impersonation of a law enforcement officer or employee of  
14 the United States, this state, or a political subdivision of this  
15 state.

16 (D) Illegally using, carrying, or possessing a dangerous  
17 weapon.

18 (E) Two or more alcohol-related offenses.

19 (F) Controlled substances under the public health code, 1978  
20 PA 368, MCL 333.1101 to 333.25211.

21 (G) An assault.

22 (H) Criminal sexual conduct in the fourth degree under section  
23 520e of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.520e.

24 (iii) He or she has been adjudged insane unless restored to  
25 sanity by court order.

26 (iv) He or she has any outstanding warrants for his or her  
27 arrest.



1           Sec. 5. (1) The department shall accept a registration  
2 statement filed under section 3 if the requirements of this act are  
3 met.

4           (2) The department's authority to administer this act is  
5 limited to the powers and duties explicitly provided under this  
6 act. The department does not have the authority to limit or expand  
7 the obligations and requirements provided in this act or to  
8 regulate or control a person to the extent that the person is  
9 providing security alarm system services except as provided in this  
10 act.

11           (3) The department may charge a fee for filing a registration  
12 statement under this act in an amount determined by the department.  
13 Any fee charged by the department may not exceed the department's  
14 actual costs to process and review a registration statement.

15           Sec. 6. The provisions of this act supersede and preempt any  
16 rule, regulation, code, or ordinance of any local unit of  
17 government of this state relating to the authorization or  
18 registration of system providers and their employees or independent  
19 contractors. A local unit of government of this state shall not  
20 require the issuance of a certificate, license, or permit or  
21 otherwise regulate any person that provides any form of security  
22 alarm security, monitoring, and control services or the  
23 installation and maintenance of facilities associated with security  
24 alarm systems, except that a local unit of government of this state  
25 may do any of the following:

26           (a) By ordinance, establish decibel limits, length, or time  
27 period of audible alarm sounding.

1           (b) By ordinance, regulate or prohibit automated calls,  
2 automated signals, or other automated communications to local units  
3 of government, including public safety access points.

4           (c) Require a permit for high-voltage electrical or plumbing  
5 work to be performed by a system provider.

6           (d) Enforce any preexisting rights with respect to the use of  
7 its rights-of-way.

8           Sec. 7. A person that violates this act is guilty of a  
9 misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 180 days  
10 or a fine of not more than \$1,000.00, or both, for each violation.