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A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to alarm systems; amending s. 489.503, 3 F.S.; revising an exemption from licensure related to 4 low-voltage electrical work performed by certain 5 persons and entities; exempting from licensure certain 6 employees and sales representatives of alarm system 7 contractors; providing for construction; creating s. 8 553.793, F.S.; providing definitions; providing for 9 applicability; requiring local enforcement agencies to offer for sale uniform basic permit labels to 10 11 contractors for a specified cost; requiring 12 contractors to post an unused label in a specified 13 place before commencing work on a low-voltage alarm 14 system project; requiring contractors to submit a 15 Uniform Notice of a Low-Voltage Alarm System Project 16 within a specified period; prescribing a form for such 17 notice; providing inspection procedures and 18 requirements for low-voltage alarm system projects; prohibiting specified local governments from adopting 19 20 or maintaining certain ordinances and rules; providing that an additional uniform basic permit label shall 21 22 not be required to perform work on certain alarm 23 systems; providing legislative intent; providing an effective date. 24 25 26 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 27 28 Section 1. Subsection (14) of section 489.503, Florida

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29 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (23) is added to that 30 section, to read:

31 489.503 Exemptions.-This part does not apply to: 32 (14) (a) The sale of, installation of, repair of, alteration of, addition to, or design of electrical wiring, 33 34 fixtures, appliances, thermostats, apparatus, raceways, 35 computers, customer premises equipment, customer premises 36 wiring, and conduit, or any part thereof, by an employee, 37 contractor, subcontractor, or affiliate of a company operating under a certificate issued under chapter 364 or chapter 610, or 38 39 under a local franchise or right-of-way agreement, if when those 40 items are for the purpose of transmitting data, voice, video, or other communications, or commands as part of a cable television, 41 42 community antenna television, or radio distribution, 43 communications, or telecommunications system. The scope of this 44 exemption is limited to electrical circuits and equipment 45 governed by the applicable provisions of Articles 725 (Classes 2 and 3 circuits only), 770, 800, 810, and 820 of the National 46 Electrical Code, current edition, or 47 C.F.R. part 68. 47 (b) An employee, subcontractor, contractor, or affiliate 48 49 of The installation of, repair of, alteration of, addition to, 50 or design of electrical wiring, fixtures, appliances, 51 thermostats, apparatus, raceways, and conduit, or any part 52 thereof, when those items are for the purpose of transmitting 53 data, voice communications, or commands as part of a system of 54 telecommunications, including computers, telephone customer

- 55 premises equipment, or premises wiring. The scope of this
- 56 exemption is limited to electrical circuits and equipment

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57 governed by the applicable provisions of Articles 725 (Classes 2 and 3 circuits only), 770, 800, 810, and 820 of the National Electrical Code, current edition, or 47 C.F.R. part 68. a company that operates under a certificate issued certified under chapter 364 or chapter 610, or under a local franchise or rightof-way agreement, is not subject to any local ordinance that requires a permit for work performed by its employees related to low-voltage low voltage electrical work, including related technical codes, and regulations, and licensure. The scope of this exemption is limited to electrical circuits and equipment governed by the applicable provisions of Articles 725 (Classes 2 and 3 circuits only), 770, 800, 810, and 820 of the National Electrical Code, current edition, or 47 C.F.R. part 68 The exemption in this paragraph shall apply only if such work is requested by the company's customer, is required in order to complete phone service, is incidental to provision of telecommunication service as required by chapter 364, and is not the subject of a competitive bid. The definition of "employee" established in subsection (1) applies to this exemption and does not include subcontractors. (23) An employee or sales representative of an alarm system contractor if he or she: (a) Does not alter, install, maintain, move, or repair alarm systems on end-user premises; and (b) Is not granted access to passwords or codes that can be used to arm or disarm alarm systems installed on specific end-user premises, or, if working at an out-of-state location,

has received a satisfactory fingerprint and background check 84

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85	from a state or federal agency.
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87	This subsection shall not be construed to limit the exemptions
88	provided in subsection (6) or relieve a person of his or her
89	obligation to comply with the applicable background check
90	provisions of ss. 489.518 and 489.5185 for any onsite alarm
91	sales.
92	Section 2. Section 553.793, Florida Statutes, is created
93	to read:
94	553.793 Streamlined low-voltage alarm system installation
95	permitting
96	(1) As used in this section, the term:
97	(a) "Contractor" means a person who is qualified to engage
98	in the business of electrical or alarm system contracting
99	pursuant to a certificate or registration issued by the
100	department under part II of chapter 489.
101	(b) "Low-voltage alarm system project" means a project
102	related to the installation, maintenance, inspection,
103	replacement, or service of a new or existing alarm system, as
104	defined in s. 489.505, operating at low voltage, as defined in
105	the National Electrical Code Standard 70, Current Edition, and
106	ancillary components or equipment attached to such a system,
107	including, but not limited to, home-automation equipment,
108	thermostats, and video cameras.
109	(2) Notwithstanding any provision of law, this section
110	applies to low-voltage alarm system projects for which a permit
111	is required by a local enforcement agency.
112	(3) This section does not apply to the installation or

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113 replacement of a fire alarm if a plan review is required. 114 (4) A local enforcement agency shall make uniform basic 115 permit labels available for purchase by a contractor to be used 116 for the installation or replacement of a new or existing alarm 117 system at a cost of not more than \$55 per label per project per 118 unit. However, a local enforcement agency charging more than 119 \$55, but less than \$175, for such a permit as of January 1, 120 2013, may continue to charge the same amount for a uniform basic 121 permit label until January 1, 2015. A local enforcement agency 122 charging more than \$175 for such a permit as of January 1, 2013, 123 may charge a maximum of \$175 for a uniform basic permit label 124 until January 1, 2015. 125 (a) A local enforcement agency may not require a 126 contractor, as a condition of purchasing a label, to submit 127 information other than identification information of the 128 licensee and proof of registration or certification as a 129 contractor. 130 (b) A label is valid for 1 year after the date of purchase 131 and may only be used within the jurisdiction of the local 132 enforcement agency that issued the label. A contractor may 133 purchase labels in bulk for one or more unspecified current or 134 future projects. 135 (5) A contractor shall post an unused uniform basic permit 136 label in a conspicuous place on the premises of the low-voltage 137 alarm system project site before commencing work on the project. 138 (6) A contractor is not required to notify the local 139 enforcement agency before commencing work on a low-voltage alarm 140 system project. However, a contractor must submit a Uniform

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2013

141	Notice of a Low-Voltage Alarm System Project as provided under
142	subsection (7) to the local enforcement agency within 14 days
143	after completing the project. A local enforcement agency may
144	take disciplinary action against a contractor who fails to
145	timely submit a Uniform Notice of a Low-Voltage Alarm System
146	Project.
147	(7) The Uniform Notice of a Low-Voltage Alarm System
148	Project may be submitted electronically or by facsimile if all
149	submissions are signed by the owner, tenant, contractor, or
150	authorized representative of such persons. The Uniform Notice of
151	a Low-Voltage Alarm System Project must contain the following
152	information:
153	UNIFORM NOTICE OF A LOW-VOLTAGE ALARM SYSTEM PROJECT
154	Owner's or Customer's Name
155	Owner's or Customer's Address
156	Fee Simple Titleholder's Name (If different from above)
157	Fee Simple Titleholder's Address (If different from above)
158	<u>City</u>
159	<u>State Zip</u>
160	Phone Number
161	E-mail Address
162	Contractor's Name
163	Contractor's Address
164	<u>City</u>
165	<u>State Zip</u>
166	Phone Number
167	Contractor's License Number
168	Date Project Completed

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169	Scope of Work
170	Notice is hereby given that a low-voltage alarm system project
171	has been completed at the address specified above. I certify
172	that all of the foregoing information is true and accurate.
173	(Signature of Owner, Tenant, Contractor, or Authorized
174	Representative)
175	(8) A low-voltage alarm system project may be inspected by
176	the local enforcement agency to ensure compliance with
177	applicable codes and standards. If a low-voltage alarm system
178	project fails an inspection, the contractor must take corrective
179	action as necessary to pass inspection.
180	(9) A municipality, county, district, or other entity of
181	local government may not adopt or maintain in effect an
182	ordinance or rule regarding a low-voltage alarm system project
183	that is inconsistent with this section.
184	(10) A uniform basic permit label shall not be required
185	for the subsequent maintenance, inspection, or service of an
186	alarm system that was permitted in accordance with this section.
187	(11) The provisions of this section are not intended to
188	impose new or additional licensure requirements on persons
189	licensed in accordance with the applicable provisions of chapter
190	<u>489.</u>
191	Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2013.

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