

By the Committee on Regulated Industries; and Senator Flores

580-02680-16

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to alarm system registration; creating  
3           s. 553.7931, F.S.; defining the term "applicable local  
4           governmental entity"; providing a uniform process for  
5           the registration of home and business alarm systems  
6           under certain circumstances; requiring the owner,  
7           lessee, or occupant, or an authorized representative  
8           thereof, of a property to register an alarm system  
9           within 20 days after occupancy or after installation  
10          of the alarm system; authorizing the applicable local  
11          governmental entity to charge a registration fee;  
12          specifying the requirements of the application form;  
13          requiring the owner, lessee, or occupant, or an  
14          authorized representative thereof, to notify the  
15          applicable local governmental agency of a change in  
16          the information provided in the application form  
17          within 30 days; authorizing the applicable local  
18          governmental entity to assess or impose fines or  
19          penalties for a failure to register an alarm system or  
20          for excessive false alarms; providing that fines and  
21          penalties are the responsibility of the owner, lessee,  
22          or occupant of the property; amending s. 489.529,  
23          F.S.; providing for written consent to an alarm system  
24          monitoring company to contact a law enforcement  
25          agency; providing an effective date.

26  
27 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

28  
29           Section 1. Section 553.7931, Florida Statutes, is created  
30 to read:

31           553.7931 Uniform alarm registration process.-

32           (1) As used in this section, the term "applicable local

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33 governmental entity” means the local enforcement agency or local  
34 law enforcement agency responsible for the administration of  
35 alarm system registration in a jurisdiction.

36 (2) This section creates a uniform process for the  
37 registration of a home or business alarm system and applies only  
38 if such registration is required by a local ordinance,  
39 regulation, or rule.

40 (a) The owner, lessee, or occupant, or an authorized  
41 representative thereof, of a property must file a uniform alarm  
42 registration application with the applicable local governmental  
43 entity that requires registration within 20 days after the  
44 installation or activation of an alarm system or occupancy of a  
45 property with an activated alarm system. During the intervening  
46 period, local first responders shall respond to a dispatch  
47 request. The application may be submitted electronically, or by  
48 facsimile, if signed by the owner, lessee, or occupant, or an  
49 authorized representative thereof.

50 (b) The applicable local governmental entity may charge the  
51 owner, lessee, or occupant an alarm registration fee of up to  
52 \$25. The registration is valid for as long as the registrant  
53 occupies the property. If possession of the property is  
54 transferred, the new occupant must file an application pursuant  
55 to paragraph (a).

56 (c) The uniform alarm registration application must contain  
57 substantially the following information:

58  
59 UNIFORM ALARM REGISTRATION APPLICATION

60  
61 Owner, Lessee, or Occupant Name.....

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62 Owner, Lessee, or Occupant Address.....  
63 City.....  
64 State.... Zip....  
65 Phone Number.....  
66 E-mail Address.....  
67 Date of Occupancy.....  
68 Name of Alarm Contractor.....  
69 Phone Number of Alarm Contractor.....  
70 Florida License Number of Alarm Contractor.....  
71 Name of Alarm Monitoring Company.....  
72 Phone Number of Alarm Monitoring Company.....  
73 Florida License Number of Alarm Monitoring Company.....  
74  
75 Emergency Contact Information:  
76 Name.....  
77 Address.....  
78 City.....  
79 State.... Zip....  
80 Phone Number.....  
81  
82 I certify that the foregoing information is true and accurate.  
83 ...(Date)...  
84 ...(Signature of Owner, Lessee, or Occupant, or Authorized  
85 Representative)...  
86  
87 (d) The owner, lessee, or occupant, or an authorized  
88 representative thereof, shall notify the applicable local  
89 governmental entity within 30 days after any change in the  
90 information submitted pursuant to paragraph (c). A contractor,

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91 as defined in s. 553.793, must advise an owner, a lessee, an  
92 occupant, or an authorized representative thereof, at the time  
93 of an alarm system installation that an obligation to register  
94 the system may exist.

95 (3) Civil penalties and fines assessed or imposed by the  
96 applicable local governmental entity for a failure to register  
97 an alarm system as required under subsection (1) or for  
98 excessive false alarms shall be the responsibility of the owner,  
99 lessee, or occupant of the property. A local ordinance,  
100 regulation, or rule may not impose a civil penalty or fine  
101 against an alarm contractor or alarm monitoring company for  
102 excessive false alarms.

103 Section 2. Section 489.529, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
104 read

105 489.529 (1) Alarm verification calls required.—All  
106 residential or commercial intrusion/burglary alarms that have  
107 central monitoring must have a central monitoring verification  
108 call made to the premises generating the alarm signal, prior to  
109 alarm monitor personnel contacting a law enforcement agency for  
110 alarm dispatch. The central monitoring station must employ call-  
111 verification methods for the premises generating the alarm  
112 signal if the first call is not answered. However, if the  
113 intrusion/burglary alarms have properly operating visual or  
114 auditory sensors that enable the monitoring personnel to verify  
115 the alarm signal, or upon authorization as provided in  
116 subsection (2), verification calling is not required.

117 (2) A residential or commercial intrusion/burglary alarm  
118 customer may give written authorization to the central  
119 monitoring alarm system company to contact a law enforcement

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120 agency immediately upon receiving an alarm signal. The customer  
121 giving the authorization is responsible for any penalties  
122 resulting from any false alarm signals.

123 Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2016.