

By the Committees on Community Affairs; and Regulated Industries; and Senator Perry

578-02409-17

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to low-voltage electric fences;
3 amending s. 553.793, F.S.; redefining the term "low-
4 voltage alarm system project" to include low-voltage
5 electric fences; defining the term "low-voltage
6 electric fence"; providing requirements for a low-
7 voltage electric fence to be permitted as a low-
8 voltage alarm system project; conforming a cross-
9 reference; providing an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. Present subsections (3) through (10) of section
14 553.793, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4)
15 through (11), respectively, subsection (1) and present
16 subsection (6) of that section are amended, and a new subsection
17 (3) is added to that section, to read:

18 553.793 Streamlined low-voltage alarm system installation
19 permitting.—

20 (1) As used in this section, the term:

21 (a) "Contractor" means a person who is qualified to engage
22 in the business of electrical or alarm system contracting
23 pursuant to a certificate or registration issued by the
24 department under part II of chapter 489.

25 (b) "Low-voltage alarm system project" means a project
26 related to the installation, maintenance, inspection,
27 replacement, or service of a new or existing alarm system, as
28 defined in s. 489.505, which ~~that~~ is hardwired and operating at
29 low voltage, as defined in the National Electrical Code Standard

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30 70, Current Edition, or a new or existing low-voltage electric
31 fence, and ancillary components or equipment attached to such a
32 system or fence, including, but not limited to, home-automation
33 equipment, thermostats, closed-circuit television systems,
34 access controls, battery-charging devices, and video cameras.

35 (c) "Low-voltage electric fence" means an alarm system, as
36 defined in s. 489.505, consisting of a fence structure and an
37 energizer powered by a commercial storage battery not exceeding
38 12 volts which produces an electric charge upon contact with the
39 fence structure.

40 (d) "Wireless alarm system" means a burglar alarm system or
41 smoke detector that is not hardwired.

42 (3) A low-voltage electric fence must meet all of the
43 following requirements to be permitted as a low-voltage alarm
44 system project, and no further permit shall be required for such
45 low-voltage alarm system project other than as provided in this
46 section:

47 (a) The electric charge produced by the low-voltage
48 electric fence upon contact does not exceed energizer
49 characteristics set forth in paragraph 22.108 and depicted in
50 Figure 102 of International Electrotechnical Commission Standard
51 No. 60335-2-76, Current Edition.

52 (b) A nonelectric fence or wall must completely enclose the
53 low-voltage electric fence. The low-voltage electric fence may
54 be up to 2 feet higher than the perimeter nonelectric fence or
55 wall.

56 (c) The low-voltage electric fence must be identified using
57 warning signs attached to the fence at intervals of not more
58 than 60 feet.

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59 (d) The low-voltage electric fence may not be installed in
60 an area zoned exclusively for single-family or multi-family
61 residential use.

62 (e) The low-voltage electric fence may not enclose portions
63 of a property which are used for residential purposes.

64 (7)~~(6)~~ A contractor is not required to notify the local
65 enforcement agency before commencing work on a low-voltage alarm
66 system project. However, a contractor must submit a Uniform
67 Notice of a Low-Voltage Alarm System Project as provided under
68 subsection (8) ~~(7)~~ to the local enforcement agency within 14
69 days after completing the project. A local enforcement agency
70 may take disciplinary action against a contractor who fails to
71 timely submit a Uniform Notice of a Low-Voltage Alarm System
72 Project.

73 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.