

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"; defining the term "low-
5 voltage electric fence"; providing requirements for a
6 low-voltage electric fence to be permitted as a low-
7 voltage alarm system project; conforming a cross-
8 reference; providing an effective date.

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

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

17 553.793 Streamlined low-voltage alarm system installation
18 permitting.—

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

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

24 (b) "Low-voltage alarm system project" means a project
25 related to the installation, maintenance, inspection,

26 replacement, or service of a new or existing alarm system, as
27 defined in s. 489.505, that is hardwired and operating at low
28 voltage, as defined in the National Electrical Code Standard 70,
29 Current Edition, or a new or existing low-voltage electric
30 fence, and ancillary components or equipment attached to such a
31 system, including, but not limited to, home-automation
32 equipment, thermostats, closed-circuit television systems,
33 access controls, and video cameras.

34 (c) "Low-voltage electric fence" means an alarm system, as
35 defined in s. 489.505, that operates in conjunction with a fence
36 that is no higher than 10 feet and an energizer powered by a
37 commercial storage battery not exceeding 12 volts which produces
38 an electric charge upon contact.

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

41 (3) A low-voltage electric fence must meet all of the
42 following requirements to be permitted as a low-voltage alarm
43 system project:

44 (a) The electric charge produced by the fence upon contact
45 does not exceed energizer characteristics set forth in paragraph
46 22.108 and depicted in Figure 102 of International
47 Electrotechnical Commission Standard No. 60335-2-76, Current
48 Edition.

49 (b) The low-voltage electric fence must be completely
50 surrounded by a nonelectric fence or wall that is not less than

51 6 feet high.

52 (c) The low-voltage electric fence must be identified
53 using warning signs attached to the fence at intervals of not
54 more than 60 feet which read: "Warning-Electric Fence."

55 (d) The low-voltage electric fence may not be installed in
56 a residential area as defined in s. 316.2126(3).

57 (7)~~(6)~~ A contractor is not required to notify the local
58 enforcement agency before commencing work on a low-voltage alarm
59 system project. However, a contractor must submit a Uniform
60 Notice of a Low-Voltage Alarm System Project as provided under
61 subsection (8) ~~(7)~~ to the local enforcement agency within 14
62 days after completing the project. A local enforcement agency
63 may take disciplinary action against a contractor who fails to
64 timely submit a Uniform Notice of a Low-Voltage Alarm System
65 Project.

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