

By Senator Perry

8-00802B-22

20221140__

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to alarm systems; amending s.
3 489.5185, F.S.; authorizing individuals with certain
4 fire alarm certifications to complete a reduced number
5 of training and continuing education hours for the
6 prevention of false alarms; requiring the training and
7 continuing education sponsors and courses to be
8 approved by the Electrical Contractors' Licensing
9 Board; amending s. 553.793, F.S.; revising the
10 definition of the term "low-voltage alarm system
11 project" to include certain closed-circuit television
12 systems; creating s. 553.7932, F.S.; requiring that
13 electrical or fire permits for certain fire alarm
14 system alterations be issued over the counter or
15 online; requiring a permittee who receives a permit
16 under the simplified process to keep shop drawings or
17 other required documentation on site for inspection;
18 providing an effective date.

19
20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

21
22 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 489.5185, Florida
23 Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (f) is added to subsection
24 (2) of that section, to read:

25 489.5185 Fire alarm system agents.—

26 (2)

27 (f) If a person holds a current National Institute of
28 Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET) Level II
29 certification or higher in Fire Alarm Systems or Inspection and

8-00802B-22

20221140__

30 Testing of Fire Alarm Systems, a current certification as an
31 Electronic Security Association (ESA) Certified Fire Alarm
32 Technician, or a current certification as an ESA Certified Fire
33 Alarm Designer, he or she is required to complete only the 2
34 hours of training in the prevention of false alarms required by
35 paragraph (1) (b) from a board-approved sponsor of training and
36 through a board-approved training course.

37 (5) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), each fire alarm
38 system agent must receive 6 hours of continuing education on
39 fire alarm system installation and repair and false alarm
40 prevention every 2 years from a board-approved sponsor of
41 training and through a board-approved training course.

42 (b) A person holding a current NICET Level II certification
43 or higher in Fire Alarm Systems or Inspection and Testing of
44 Fire Alarm Systems, certification as an ESA Certified Fire Alarm
45 Technician, or certification as an ESA Certified Fire Alarm
46 Designer is required to complete only 2 hours of continuing
47 education training in the prevention of false alarms every 2
48 years from a board-approved sponsor of training and through a
49 board-approved training course.

50 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
51 553.793, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

52 553.793 Streamlined low-voltage alarm system installation
53 permitting.—

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

55 (b) "Low-voltage alarm system project" means a project
56 related to the installation, maintenance, inspection,
57 replacement, or service of a new or existing alarm system, as
58 defined in s. 489.505, including closed-circuit television

8-00802B-22

20221140__

59 systems used to signal or detect a burglary, fire, robbery, or
60 medical emergency, that is hardwired and operating at low
61 voltage, as defined in the National Electrical Code Standard 70,
62 Current Edition, or a new or existing low-voltage electric
63 fence, and ancillary components or equipment attached to such a
64 system or fence, including, but not limited to, home-automation
65 equipment, thermostats, closed-circuit television systems,
66 access controls, battery recharging devices, and video cameras.

67 Section 3. Section 553.7932, Florida Statutes, is created
68 to read:

69 553.7932 Simplified permitting process for fire alarm
70 system alterations.—

71 (1) Electrical or fire permits for all of the following
72 must be issued over the counter or online:

73 (a) A fire alarm system alteration of a total of 20 or
74 fewer initiating devices and notification devices.

75 (b) The installation or replacement of a fire communicator
76 connected to an existing fire alarm control panel in an existing
77 commercial building, apartment, or condominium.

78 (2) A permittee who receives an electrical or fire permit
79 pursuant to this section shall keep shop drawings or other
80 required documentation on site at the time of inspection.

81 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.