

1 SB147
2 155485-1
3 By Senator Holley
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs
5 First Read: 14-JAN-14

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, alarm systems are
9 licensed and regulated by the Electronic Security
10 Board of Licensure.

11 This bill would require an alarm monitoring
12 company to make at least two reasonable attempts to
13 verify that an alarm signal is valid and not a
14 false alarm. The bill would require the board to
15 implement and enforce this provision.

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17 A BILL
18 TO BE ENTITLED
19 AN ACT

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21 To amend Section 34-1A-1 of the Code of Alabama
22 1975, as last amended by Act 2013-221 of the 2013 Regular
23 Session, and to add Section 34-1A-11 to the Code of Alabama
24 1975, relating to the Electronic Security Board of Licensure;
25 to require an alarm monitoring company to make certain
26 reasonable attempts to verify that an alarm signal is valid

1 and to provide for implementation and enforcement by the
2 board.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. Section 34-1A-1 of the Code of Alabama
5 1975, as last amended by Act 2013-221 of the 2013 Regular
6 Session, is further amended to read as follows:

7 "§34-1A-1.

8 "For the purpose of this chapter, the following
9 terms shall have the following meanings unless the context
10 clearly indicates otherwise:

11 "(1) ALARM MONITORING COMPANY. Any person, company,
12 corporation, partnership, or business, or a representative or
13 agency thereof, authorized to provide alarm monitoring
14 services for alarm systems or other similar electronic
15 security systems whether the systems are maintained on
16 commercial business property, public property, or individual
17 residential property.

18 "~~(1)~~(2) ALARM SYSTEM. Burglar alarms, security
19 cameras, or other electrical or electronic device used to
20 prevent or detect burglary, theft, shoplifting, pilferage, and
21 other similar losses. The term does not include any fire
22 detection, fire alarm, or fire communication system.

23 "~~(2)~~(3) ALARM SYSTEM INSTALLER. A person or business
24 entity that offers to undertake, represents itself as being
25 able to undertake, or does undertake the installation,
26 service, or monitoring, of alarm systems for the public for
27 any type of compensation.

1 "(4) ALARM VERIFICATION. A reasonable attempt by an
2 alarm monitoring company to contact the alarm site or alarm
3 user by telephone or other electronic means to determine
4 whether an alarm signal is valid prior to requesting law
5 enforcement to be dispatched to the location and, if the
6 initial attempted contact is not made, a second reasonable
7 attempt to make a contact utilizing a different telephone
8 number or electronic address or number.

9 "~~(3)~~(5) BURGLAR ALARM. An assembly of equipment and
10 devices, or a single device such as a solid-state unit which
11 plugs directly into an AC line, designed to detect an
12 unauthorized intrusion or an attempted robbery at a protected
13 premises or signal public police or private guards to respond,
14 or both.

15 "~~(4)~~(6) CENTRAL STATION. A location where alarm
16 signals are received as a part of an alarm system and then
17 relayed via operator to law enforcement officials.

18 "~~(5)~~(7) CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION SYSTEM (CCTV). A
19 combination of electronic equipment and devices designed and
20 arranged for the viewing, monitoring, or recording of video
21 signals transmitted from transmitters, such as cameras, to
22 receivers, such as monitors, digital video recorders, and
23 network video recorders (NVR) through a closed cable or other
24 video signal transmission method.

25 "~~(6)~~(8) ELECTRONIC ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEM. A system
26 that is powered by the building's primary power source and is
27 used as a process to grant or deny an individual access to a

1 specific area or object based upon his or her possession of an
2 item, a code, or physical characteristic.

3 "~~(7)~~(9) INSTALLATION. The initial placement of
4 equipment or the extension, modification, or alteration of
5 equipment after initial placement.

6 "~~(8)~~(10) LOCKSMITH. A person or business entity that
7 offers to undertake, represents itself as being able to
8 undertake, or does undertake the installation or service of
9 locks for motor vehicles or for residential or commercial use.

10 "~~(9)~~(11) SERVICE. Necessary repair in order to
11 return the system to operational condition."

12 Section 2. Section 34-1A-11 is added to the Code of
13 Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

14 §34-1A-11.

15 (a) The board shall require an alarm monitoring
16 company to utilize a system providing for alarm verification
17 of all alarm signals, except alarm verification shall not be
18 required in the case of a fire alarm or a panic or
19 robbery-in-progress alarm or in cases where a crime in
20 progress has been verified to be true by video or audio means.

21 (b) The board shall provide by rule for the
22 implementation and enforcement of this section.

23 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the
24 first day of the third month following its passage and
25 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.