

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 438

(The President)(By Request - Department of Legislative Services)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Security Systems Technicians - Sunset Extension

This bill extends the termination date of the licensing and regulation of security systems agencies and technicians by 10 years to July 1, 2031, and requires the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) to conduct a preliminary evaluation of the board by December 15, 2028.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund revenues and expenditures for the licensing and regulation of security systems agencies and technicians are maintained beyond FY 2021.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Chapter 362 of 1994 established licensing of security systems agencies and Chapter 520 of 1997 established registration of security systems technicians in the State. The Maryland State Police, through its Licensing Division, administers the regulation of security systems agencies and technicians. Three employees (one part-time sergeant, one full-time trooper, and one full-time administrative assistant) oversee the program.

In order to perform security systems services, an individual registered as a security systems technician must work for a licensed security systems agency. Each applicant for a license

or a registration must undergo a criminal history records check, be age 18 or older, and be of good moral character. An applicant for an agency license must also carry a fidelity bond or maintain general liability insurance for at least \$50,000.

Maryland Program Evaluation Act

The licensing and registration of security systems agencies and technicians is 1 of 70 regulatory entities and activities currently subject to periodic evaluation under the Maryland Program Evaluation Act. The Act establishes a process, better known as “sunset review” as most entities evaluated are also subject to termination, including the licensing and regulation of security systems technicians, which is scheduled to terminate July 1, 2020. The sunset review process traditionally begins with a preliminary evaluation conducted by DLS on behalf of the Legislative Policy Committee (LPC), although a few entities are subject to direct full evaluation. LPC decides whether to waive an entity from further (or full) evaluation. If waived, legislation to reauthorize the entity typically is enacted. Otherwise, a full evaluation usually is undertaken the following year. LPC waived the licensing and registration of security systems agencies and technicians from full evaluation.

A copy of the DLS sunset report on the board, which was completed during the 2018 interim, can be found on the department’s [website](#).

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police; Department of Legislative Services

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