

CHAPTER 598

(House Bill 801)

AN ACT concerning

Security Systems – Prohibited Sales Practice

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person who engages in the sale of a security system from stating that the person can or will provide a certain enhanced response time by a law enforcement agency as part of the security system.

BY adding to

Article – Commercial Law

Section 14-1314

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1993 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Commercial Law

14-1314.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY" MEANS A POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OR OF A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE.

(3) "RESPONSE TIME" MEANS THE PERIOD OF TIME FROM THE MOMENT AN ALARM FROM A SECURITY SYSTEM IS ACTIVATED TO THE MOMENT A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY RESPONDS TO THE ALARM SOUNDING.

(4) (I) "SECURITY SYSTEM" MEANS ANY BURGLARY ALARM SYSTEM OR ROBBERY ALARM SYSTEM.

(II) "SECURITY SYSTEM" INCLUDES THE SERVICE OF MONITORING THE PROPERTY TO WHICH A SECURITY SYSTEM IS ATTACHED IN CASE OF AN ALARM SOUNDING.

(5) "SELLER" MEANS A PERSON WHO SELLS OR OFFERS FOR SALE A SECURITY SYSTEM.

(B) IN CONNECTION WITH A SALE OR OFFER FOR SALE OF A SECURITY SYSTEM, A SELLER MAY NOT STATE THAT THE SELLER CAN OR WILL PROVIDE, AS PART OF THE SECURITY SYSTEM, A RESPONSE TIME BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TO AN ALARM SOUNDING THAT IS SHORTER IN TIME THAN THE RESPONSE TIME BY THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TO A GENERAL DISTRESS CALL.