

Assembly Bill No. 759

CHAPTER 14

An act to amend Sections 6980.12 and 7590.2 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to alarm companies, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

[Approved by Governor May 13, 2014. Filed with
Secretary of State May 13, 2014.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 759, Daly. Alarm companies.

Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of locksmiths and the registration of employees of locksmiths by the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services in the Department of Consumer Affairs. Existing law exempts from that regulation and licensure or registration certain individuals and practices, including, among others, a person registered with the bureau as an employee of a reposessor, if the duties of the person that constitute locksmithing are ancillary to the primary duties and functions of the person's position. Existing law, the Alarm Company Act, also provides for the licensure and regulation of alarm company operators and the certification and registration of employees of alarm companies, including alarm agents, by the bureau.

This bill would expand the exemption from licensure as a locksmith or registration as an employee of a locksmith to include a person who is licensed, certified, or registered with the bureau pursuant to the Alarm Company Act if the duties of the person that constitute locksmithing are performed in combination with the installation, maintenance, moving, repairing, replacing, servicing, or reconfiguration of an alarm system, as defined, and limited to work on electronic locks or access control devices that are controlled by an alarm system control device, including the removal of existing hardware.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 6980.12 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

6980.12. This chapter does not apply to the following persons:

(a) A person, or his or her agent or employee, who is the manufacturer of a product, other than locks and keys, and who installs, repairs, opens, or

modifies locks or who makes keys for the locks of that product as a normal incident to its marketing.

(b) An employee who is an industrial or institutional locksmith, provided that the employee provides locksmith services only to a single employer that does not provide locksmith services for hire to the public for any consideration or compensation whatsoever.

(c) A tow truck driver who does not originate keys for locks and whose locksmith services are limited to opening motor vehicles.

(d) A person employed exclusively and regularly by a state correctional institution, or other state or federal agency, and who does not provide locksmith services for hire to the public for any consideration or compensation whatsoever.

(e) (1) A person registered with the bureau pursuant to Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 7500) if the duties of that person's position that constitute locksmithing are ancillary to the primary duties and functions of that person's position.

(2) A person licensed, certified, or registered pursuant to Chapter 11.6 (commencing with Section 7590) if the duties of that person's position that constitute locksmithing are performed in combination with the installation, maintenance, moving, repairing, replacing, servicing, or reconfiguration of an alarm system, as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 7590.1, and limited to work on electronic locks or access control devices that are controlled by an alarm system control device, including the removal of existing hardware.

(f) An agent or employee of a retail establishment that has a primary business other than providing locksmith services, providing all of the following criteria are met:

(1) The services provided by the retail establishment are limited to rekeying and recombination of locks.

(2) All rekeying, recombination, and installation of locks must take place on the premises of the retail establishment.

(3) All rekeying, recombination, and installation services provided by the retail establishment subject to this chapter are limited to locks purchased on the retail establishment's premises and are conducted prior to purchasers taking possession of the locks.

(4) An unlicensed agent or employee of the retail establishment shall not advertise or represent himself or herself to be licensed under this chapter, and an agent or employee of the retail establishment shall not advertise or represent himself or herself to be a locksmith.

(5) An agent or employee of the retail establishment shall not design or implement a master key system, as defined in subdivision (o) of Section 6980.

(6) An agent or employee of the retail establishment shall not rekey, change the combination of, alter, or install any automotive locks.

(7) The retail establishment shall not have on its premises any locksmith tool, as defined in subdivision (s) of Section 6980, other than the following:

(A) Standard key duplication machines.

(B) Key blanks.

(C) Pin kits.

(g) A law enforcement officer employed by any city, county, city and county, state, or federal law enforcement agency, if all services are performed during the course of the officer's professional duties.

(h) A firefighter or emergency medical person employed by any city, county, city and county, district, or state agency, if all services are performed during the course of duties as a firefighter or emergency medical person.

(i) A new motor vehicle dealer, as defined in Section 426 of the Vehicle Code, and an employee of a new motor vehicle dealer acting within the scope of employment at a dealership.

SEC. 2. Section 7590.2 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

7590.2. (a) An "alarm company operator" means a person who, for any consideration whatsoever, engages in business or accepts employment to install, maintain, alter, sell on premises, monitor, or service alarm systems or who responds to alarm systems except for any alarm agent. "Alarm company operator," includes any entity that is retained by a licensed alarm company operator, a customer, or any other person or entity, to monitor one or more alarm systems, whether or not the entity performs any other duties within the definition of an alarm company operator. The provisions of this chapter, to the extent that they can be made applicable, shall be applicable to the duties and functions performed in monitoring alarm systems.

(b) A person licensed as an alarm company operator may not conduct any investigation or investigations except those that are incidental to personal injury, or the theft, loss, embezzlement, misappropriation, or concealment of any property, or any other thing enumerated in this section, which he or she has been hired or engaged to protect.

(c) A person who is licensed, certified, or registered pursuant to this chapter is exempt from locksmithing requirements, pursuant to subdivision (e) of Section 6980.12, if the duties performed that constitute locksmithing are performed in combination with the installation, maintenance, moving, repairing, replacing, servicing, or reconfiguration of an alarm system, as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 7590.1, and limited to work on electronic locks or access control devices that are controlled by an alarm system control device, including the removal of existing hardware.

SEC. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order to assure prompt access to, and the ability to promptly secure, residential and business properties using alarm systems with automated locking features, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.