

AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING PROFESSIONAL OCCUPATION LAWS RELATED TO PRIVATE SECURITY; CLARIFYING THE DEFINITIONS OF "ELECTRONIC SECURITY FIRM", "PRIVATE SECURITY GUARD", AND "SECURITY ALARM INSTALLER"; AMENDING SECTIONS 37-60-101, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 37-60-101, MCA, is amended to read:

"37-60-101. **Definitions.** As used in this chapter, the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Armed" means an endorsement authorizing a private investigator or a private security guard to possess and use one or more firearms in the performance of professional duties according to training and reporting requirements prescribed by this chapter and department rule.
- (2) "Armed carrier service" means a private security firm that provides the transport or the offer to transport items of value under an armed private security guard.
  - (3) "Department" means the department of labor and industry provided for in 2-15-1701.
- (4) (a) "Electronic security firm" means a person who sells, installs, services, or maintains a security alarm system that automatically communicates with a public safety agency or public safety answering point as defined in 10-4-101 and who employs security alarm installers.
- (b) The term does not include a person whose primary business is that of a locksmith and who may also install closed-circuit television cameras and battery-operated door devices.
  - (5) "Licensee" means a person licensed under this chapter.
- (6) "Private investigator" means an individual who for any consideration makes or agrees to make any investigation relevant to:
  - (a) crimes against the United States or any state or territory of the United States;



- (b) the identity, habits, conduct, business, occupation, honesty, integrity, trustworthiness, efficiency, loyalty, activity, movement, location, affiliations, associations, transactions, reputation, or character of any person;
  - (c) the location, disposition, or recovery of lost or stolen property;
- (d) the cause of or responsibility for any fires, libels, losses, accidents, or injury to persons or property; or
  - (e) gathering evidence to be used before any court, board, officer, or investigating committee.
- (7) "Private security firearms instructor" means an individual who instructs private investigators and private security guards in the use of firearms that may be used while performing professional duties.
  - (8) "Private security firm" means a person who provides one or more of the following:
  - (a) private security guard services;
  - (b) armed private security guard services; or
  - (c) armed carrier services.
- (9) "Private security guard" means an individual employed by a private security firm to protect persons or property or to direct public movement in public areas.
  - (10) "Registered process server" means a person described in 25-1-1101.
- (11) (a) "Security alarm installer" means an individual employed by an electronic security firm to sell, install, service, or maintain security alarm systems that automatically communicate with a public safety agency or public safety answering point as defined in 10-4-101 to detect and signal unauthorized intrusion, movement, break-in, or criminal acts.
- (b) The term does not include a person whose primary business is that of a locksmith and who may also install closed-circuit television cameras and battery-operated door devices.
- (12) (a) "Security alarm system" means an assembly of equipment and devices or a single device or a portion of a system intended to detect or signal or to both detect and signal unauthorized intrusion, movement, or criminal acts at a location.
- (b) The term does not include systems that monitor temperature, humidity, or any other atmospheric condition not directly related to the detection of an unauthorized intrusion or criminal act at a location."



Section 2. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2025.

- END -



I hereby certify that the within bill,	
SB 198, originated in the Senate.	
Secretary of the Senate	
President of the Senate	
Signed this	do
Signed this of	
	<del></del> ,
Speaker of the House	
Signed this	
of	, 2025

## SENATE BILL NO. 198

## INTRODUCED BY J. TREBAS, G. NIKOLAKAKOS

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