



SENATE BILL 710: DPS Agency Changes.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Finance. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	June 3, 2025
Introduced by:	Sens. Daniel, Britt, B. Newton	Prepared by:	Nicholas Giddings
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *The finance provisions of Senate Bill 710 would increase the statutory maximum fee amounts that may be charged by the newly-named Security Systems Licensing Board, currently the Alarm Systems Licensing Board, as well as update the requirements and conditions for some licenses and employee registrations (Section 1(a) of Part I), and authorize the Private Protective Services Board to charge a fee up to \$100 for an application for approval of a continuing legal education course (Section 2(c) of Part II). The remainder of Senate Bill 710 would do the following:*

- *Make various changes to the Alarm Systems Licensing Act.*
- *Make various changes to the laws governing the Private Protective Services Board.*
- *Add courses certified by the Private Protective Services Board and the Secretary of Public Safety to the list of approved courses for purposes of a concealed handgun permit application.*
- *Allow the Private Protective Services Board and the Alarm Systems Licensing Board to access and consider certain criminal records for licensure and registration purposes.*
- *Authorize the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Commission to provide a method for permittees and applicants to establish compliance with local ordinances and State and federal laws.*
- *Modify notice requirements to ABC permit holders related to conduct of their employees in violation of the law.*
- *Require law enforcement agencies and sheriffs to request and review the complete personnel file over the previous five years of applicants seeking certain law enforcement positions.*
- *Modify appointment requirements and procedures for military judges of the North Carolina National Guard.*

CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS:

PART I. ALARM SYSTEMS LICENSING ACT MODERNIZATION

The Alarm Systems Licensing Act (ASLA), Chapter 74D of the General Statutes, establishes the Alarm Systems Licensing Board (Board) and requires any person, firm, association, and corporation, or any department or division of those entities, to obtain a license prior to engaging in the alarm systems business in North Carolina. The seven-member Board, under the Department of Public Safety (DPS), enforces the ASLA and administers the licensing, education, and training requirements for those engaged in the alarm systems business. An alarm system business is defined as selling or attempting to sell an alarm system

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device through personal solicitation at a residence or business or installing, servicing, monitoring, or responding to electrical or mechanical alarm signal devices, burglar alarms, monitored access control, or cameras used to detect unlawful entry or illegal activity. Certain alarm system activities are exempt from the licensing requirements including the sale of alarm systems not involving personal solicitation at residential or business locations, fire alarm system installation, monitoring activity located in another state not involving personal solicitation, and the provision of certain alarm system services provided to a State agency or local government.

Part I of Senate Bill 710 would do all of the following:

- Rename Article 1 of Chapter 74D the "Security Systems Licensing Act" and change "alarm system" to "security system" throughout the Chapter.
- Update the definition of "security systems business" to include:
 - Any solicitation for the sale of a security system.
 - Wireless or hardwired alarm devices and security systems.
 - Integrated automation of a residence or business that includes a security element.
 - Analytic capturing devices, systems providing intelligence, or other imaging devices used to detect various illegal activities.
- Add additional requirements an applicant must meet to become a qualifying agent and grant the Director of the Board additional discretionary authority related to the extension of time to find substitute qualifying agents.
- Give the Board additional powers related to investigating unlicensed activity, engaging in real property transactions, and denying, suspending, or revoking a license or registration.
- Update the various requirements and conditions for issuing licenses, registrations, and permits.
- Increase the following statutory maximum fee amounts that may be charged by the Board:
 - Initial license application fee: \$150 to \$500
 - New or renewal license fee: \$500 to \$1,000
 - Late license renewal fee: \$100 to \$500
 - New or renewal registration fee: \$50 to \$100
 - Reregistration for change of employment to another licensee: \$10 to \$25
 - Branch office certificate fee: \$150 to \$300
 - Late registration fee: \$20 to \$40
- Remove outdated and unnecessary language and move certain statutory language to more appropriate locations in the Chapter.

This Part would become effective October 1, 2025.

PART II. PRIVATE PROTECTIVE SERVICES BOARD LAWS AMENDMENTS

Chapter 74C of the General Statutes establishes the Private Protective Services Board and requires any private person, firm, association, or corporation that performs private protective services in this State to comply with the licensing requirements of Chapter 74C. The Private Protective Services Board is under DPS, enforces the provisions of Chapter 74C, and administers the licensing, education, and training requirements for those engaged in the private protective services business. G.S. 74C-3(a) defines "private protective services profession" to include the armored car profession, close personal protection, the courier service profession, detection of deception examiner, digital forensics examination, the electronic

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countermeasures profession, the security guard and patrol profession, the guard dog service profession, a private detective or private investigator, and the special limited guard and patrol profession.

Part II of Senate Bill 710 would do all of the following:

- Clarify the types of trainee permits available under Chapter 74C of the General Statutes.
- Provide that the private protective services profession can involve services provided to the government.
- Authorize the Private Protective Services Board to charge a fee up to \$100 for an application for approval of a continuing legal education course.
- Modify G.S. 74C-11, which governs probationary employees and registration of regular employees, to regulate security guard and patrol companies and armored car companies.
- Expand the grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation of a license, registration, or permit.
- Modify G.S. 74C-13, which governs firearm registration permits for private protective services, to apply generally to licensees.

This Part would become effective October 1, 2025.

PART III. ENHANCE BACKGROUND CHECK ABILITIES OF PRIVATE PROTECTIVE SERVICES BOARD AND ALARM SYSTEMS LICENSING BOARD

Part III of Senate Bill 710 would do all of the following:

- Modify G.S. 14-415.12 to add courses certified or sponsored by the North Carolina Private Protective Services Board and the Secretary of Public Safety to the list of approved courses for purposes of a concealed handgun permit application.
- Modify G.S. 15A-151 to allow the Administrative Office of the Courts, upon request of the North Carolina Private Protective Services Board or the North Carolina Alarm Systems Licensing Board, to disclose information about expunction orders for licensure or registration purposes only.
- Exempt the North Carolina Private Protective Services Board and the North Carolina Security Systems Licensing Board from the requirements of G.S. 93B-8.1, which governs how occupational licensing boards can consider an applicant's criminal history record.

This Part would become effective October 1, 2025.

PART IV. ENHANCE ABC COMMISSION OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY

Part IV of Senate Bill 710 would give the ABC Commission authority to provide for a method for ABC permittees and applicants to establish compliance with all local ordinances and State and federal laws.

This Part would become effective October 1, 2025.

PART V. MODIFY LAW REGARDING NOTICE OF CERTAIN VIOLATIONS TO ABC PERMIT HOLDERS

Part V of Senate Bill 710 would remove the requirement that the ABC permit holder be notified when certain employees of the permit holder are issued a citation for conduct in violation of the law by an alcohol law enforcement agent or local ABC official.

PART VI. REVIEW OF PERSONNEL RECORDS

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Part VI of Senate Bill 710 would require a North Carolina law enforcement agency considering an applicant for employment as a sworn law enforcement officer, or sheriff considering an applicant for employment as a deputy sheriff, to request access and review the complete personnel file of the applicant of any North Carolina law enforcement agency where the applicant was employed over the previous five years. The previous employer of the applicant must grant the requesting agency access to the applicant's complete personnel file upon receipt of a release signed by the applicant.

PART VII. REINSTATE G.S. 102-1.1

Part VII of Senate Bill would reinstate G.S. 102-1.1, which provides the name and description in relation to the 1983 North American Datum, upon the request of the Division of Emergency Management.

PART VIII. MILITARY JUDGES OF THE NCSG APPOINTMENT MODIFICATIONS

Part VIII of Senate Bill 710 would do all of the following:

- Modify the summary courts-martial process under G.S. 127A-50, including the composition of the court and the possible penalties under that section. This modification would be effective when it becomes law and would apply to summary courts-martial initiated on or after that date.
- Modify the requirements for appointment as a military judge under G.S. 127A-50.1. This modification would be effective when it becomes law and would apply to military judges serving on or after that date, but the new requirements of G.S. 127A-50.1 would only apply to appointments made on or after that date.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Except as otherwise provided, this act would be effective when it becomes law.

Michael Johnston, counsel to Senate Judiciary, substantially contributed to this summary.