

House Bill 854 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Rutledge of the 109th, Powell of the 32nd, Petrea of the 166th, Stephens of the 164th, and Clark of the 147th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 60 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 general provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, so as to provide that
3 local governments treat fence detection systems as any other alarm system; to define fence
4 detection system; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 60 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general
9 provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, is amended by adding a new
10 Code section to read as follows:

11 "36-60-12.1.

12 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'fence detection system' means a new or existing
13 alarm system or electronic security system and ancillary components or equipment attached
14 to such system that includes, but is not limited to:

15 (1) A fence, on commercial or industrial zoned property, surrounded by a nonelectric
16 perimeter fence or wall that is at least five feet in height with conspicuous warning signs
17 that are located on the fence at no more than 40 foot intervals and that read:
18 'WARNING-ELECTRIC FENCE';

19 (2) An energizer powered by a commercial storage battery not exceeding 12 volts that
20 produces a short electric pulsed charge upon contact with the fence; and

21 (3) A battery charging device used exclusively to charge the battery
22 that interfaces with a monitored alarm device in a manner that enables the alarm system or
23 electronic security system to transmit a signal intended to summon law enforcement or the
24 property owner in response to an intrusion or burglary and produces an electric charge on
25 contact that does not exceed energizer characteristics set for electric fence energizers by
26 the International Electrotechnical Commission Standard 60335-2-76:2018.

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27 (b) Each county, consolidated government, and municipal corporation shall treat fence
28 detection systems, in all matters, as alarm systems as defined in paragraph (.1) of Code
29 Section 43-14-2."

30 **SECTION 2.**

31 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.