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FLOOR DEBATE

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defined as an individual other than an employee of a federal, state, or local government, a political subdivision, or an individual appointed as a deputy state sheriff, whose primary duty is to perform a contract or proprietary security service, either full- or part-time. They may be armed or unarmed; in a uniform registered with and approved by the Secretary of State, or in plain clothes. A security officer does not include an employee whose sole duty is internal auditing or credit functions, a technician, or a monitor of electronic security systems or others not purporting to perform security services, such as bouncers, parking lot attendants, house-sitters, or event staff. And we did clarify that in our amendment that we will have before you. The Secretary of State's Office will administer the rules and regulations related to this legislation, and all of you should have before you a letter from the Secretary of State's Office stating their willingness to provide the administrative functions as outlined in the bill. The Secretary of State's Office will license applicants as security officers who meet the guidelines, the standards, the requirements and qualifications of the act. They will establish minimum guidelines for educating and training licensees under the act. They will enforce the act by reviewing and investigating complaints of violation, and establish conditions for reinstatement and renewal of licenses. Applicants must meet minimum guidelines to be licensed under this act, and such guidelines include that the applicant not have been convicted of unlawful conduct; not have been declared, by any court of competent jurisdiction, incompetent by reason of mental defect or disease; and not be currently suffering from habitual drunkenness or from drug addiction or dependence. Additionally, the applicant must be 18 years of age for a license, and 21 years of age for a security officer's firearms permit. Each applicant must also have a federal criminal history record checked through the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Applicants must also submit evidence of successfully completing an education and training program, as required by the Secretary of State. Another aspect of the legislation, it creates an advisory board made up of security professionals to help advise the Secretary of State's Office on the rules and regulations governing the act. I do believe that this legislation is very important for the safety of the public, as well as for the