

# STATE OF NEW YORK

706--C

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

(Prefiled)

January 6, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. L. ROSENTHAL, DINOWITZ, EPSTEIN, SIMON, GLICK, GALEF, J. RIVERA, McMAHON, GOTTFRIED, FRONTUS, ABINANTI, COLTON, WEPRIN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Housing -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- again reported from said committee with amendments, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- again reported from said committee with amendments, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the multiple dwelling law and the multiple residence law, in relation to the use of electronic or computerized entry systems and the information that may be gathered from such systems

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The multiple dwelling law is amended by adding a new  
2 section 50-b to read as follows:

3 § 50-b. Electronic or computerized entry systems. 1. Definitions. For  
4 the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the follow-  
5 ing meanings:

6 (a) "Account information" means information that is used to grant a  
7 user entry or access to any online tools that are used to manage user  
8 accounts related to an electronic and/or computerized entry system.

9 (b) "Authentication data" means data generated or collected at a point  
10 of authentication in connection with granting a user entry to a class A  
11 multiple dwelling or common area with an electronic or computerized  
12 entry system, except that "authentication data" shall not include data  
13 generated through or collected by a video or camera system that is used  
14 to monitor entrances but not to grant entry.

15 (c) "Critical security vulnerability" means a security vulnerability  
16 that has a significant risk of resulting in an unauthorized access to an  
17 area secured by an electronic and/or computerized entry system.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD00549-06-1

1 (d) "Reference data" means information against which authentication  
2 data is verified at a point of authentication by a smart access system  
3 in order to grant a user entry to a smart access building or common area  
4 of such building.

5 (e) "Security breach" means any incident that results in unauthorized  
6 access of data, applications, services, networks and/or devices by  
7 bypassing underlying security mechanisms. A "security breach" occurs  
8 when an individual or an application illegitimately enters a private,  
9 confidential or unauthorized logical information technology perimeter.

10 2. Entry. a. Where a landlord installs or plans to install an elec-  
11 tronic or computerized entry system on any entrance from the street,  
12 passageway, court, yard, cellar, or other common area of a class A  
13 multiple dwelling, such system shall not rely solely on a web-based  
14 application to facilitate entrance but shall also include a key fob, key  
15 card, digital key or passcode for tenant use.

16 b. Landlords may provide various methods of entry into individual  
17 apartments including a mechanical key or an electronic or computerized  
18 entry system of a key fob, key card or digital key, provided, however  
19 that such electronic or computerized entry system shall not rely solely  
20 on a web-based application.

21 c. Notwithstanding paragraph a or b of this subdivision, landlords  
22 shall provide a non-electronic means of entry where requested by the  
23 tenant due to a religious preference.

24 d. All lawful tenants and occupants shall be provided with a key, key  
25 fob, digital key or key card at no cost to such tenants. The term "occu-  
26 pants" shall include children under the age of eighteen who shall be  
27 issued a key, key fob, digital key or key card if a parent or guardian  
28 requests such child be provided with one. Tenants may also receive up to  
29 four additional keys, key fobs, digital key or key cards at no cost to  
30 the tenant for employees or guests. The term "guests" shall include  
31 family members and friends who can reasonably be expected to visit on a  
32 regular basis or visit as needed to care for the tenant or the apartment  
33 if the tenant is away. Employees, including contractors, professional  
34 caregivers or other services providers, may have an expiration date  
35 placed on their key, key card, digital key or key fob, which may be  
36 extended upon the tenant's or occupant's request. Tenants may request a  
37 new or replacement key, key fob, digital key or key card at any time  
38 throughout the course of the tenancy. The landlord or his or her agent  
39 shall provide the first replacement key, key fob, digital key or key  
40 card to the tenant free of charge. The cost of second and subsequent  
41 replacement cards shall not be more than what the landlord paid for the  
42 replacement up to and not exceeding twenty-five dollars.

43 e. The landlord shall not set limits on the number of keys, key fobs,  
44 digital keys or key cards a lawful tenant or occupant may request.

45 f. Any door that has an electronic or computerized entry system shall  
46 have backup power or an alternative means of entry to ensure that the  
47 entry system continues to operate during a power outage. A landlord, or  
48 his or her agent, shall routinely inspect the backup power and shall  
49 replace according to system specifications. Owners or their agents  
50 shall provide lawful tenants and occupants with information about whom  
51 to contact in the event that the tenant, occupant or the tenant's or  
52 occupant's children, guests or employees become locked out.

53 3. Notice. Landlords or their agents shall provide notice to a tenant  
54 at the time the tenant signs the lease, or when the electronic or  
55 computerized entry system is installed, of the provisions of subdivision  
56 two of this section.

1     4. Data collection. a. If an electronic and/or computerized entry  
2 system is utilized to gain entrance to a class A multiple dwelling, the  
3 only reference, authentication, and account information gathered by any  
4 electronic and/or computerized entry system shall be limited to account  
5 information used to grant a user entry or to access any online tools  
6 used to manage user accounts related to the electronic and/or computer-  
7 ized entry system, or reference data, such as the lessee or tenant's  
8 name, apartment number, the preferred method of contact for such lessee  
9 or tenant, other doors or common areas to which the user has access,  
10 move-in and, if available move-out dates, and authentication data such  
11 as time and method of access for security purposes and a photograph of  
12 access events for security purposes. For electronic and computerized  
13 entry systems that rely on the collection of biometric data and which  
14 have already been installed at the time this section shall have become a  
15 law, a biometric identifier may be collected pursuant to this section in  
16 order to register a lessee or tenant for an electronic and/or computer-  
17 ized entry system. No new electronic and/or computerized entry systems  
18 that rely on the collection of biometric data shall be installed in  
19 class A multiple dwellings for three years after the effective date of  
20 this section.

21     (i) The owner of the multiple dwelling may collect only the minimum  
22 data required by the technology used in the electronic and/or computer-  
23 ized entry system to effectuate such entrance and protect the privacy  
24 and security of such tenants.

25     (ii) The owner or agent of the owner shall not request or retain, in  
26 any form, the social security number of any tenant or occupant as a  
27 condition of use of the electronic or computerized entry system.

28     (iii) The owner, agent of the owner, or the vendor of an electronic or  
29 computerized entry system on behalf of the owner may record each time a  
30 key fob, key card, digital key or passcode is used to enter the build-  
31 ing, but shall not record any departures.

32     (iv) A copy of such data may be retained for reference at the point of  
33 authentication by the electronic and/or computerized entry system. Such  
34 reference data may be retained only for tenants or those authorized by  
35 the tenant or owner of the multiple dwelling.

36     (v) The owner of the multiple dwelling shall destroy or anonymize  
37 authentication data within a reasonable time, but not later than ninety  
38 days after the date collected.

39     (vi) Reference data for a tenant or those authorized by a tenant shall  
40 be destroyed or anonymized within ninety days of (1) the tenant perma-  
41 nently vacating the dwelling, or (2) a request by the tenant to withdraw  
42 authorization for those previously authorized by the tenant.

43     b. (i) For the purposes of this section, "biometric identifier" means  
44 a retina or iris scan, fingerprint, voiceprint, or record of hand, face  
45 geometry or other similar feature.

46     (ii) An entity may not capture a biometric identifier of an individual  
47 to gain entrance to a class A multiple dwelling unless the person is a  
48 tenant or person authorized by the tenant, and informs the individual  
49 before capturing the biometric identifier; and receives their express  
50 consent to capture the biometric identifier.

51     (iii) Any entity that possesses a biometric identifier of an individ-  
52 ual that is captured to gain entrance to a class A multiple dwelling:

53     (1) May not sell, lease or otherwise disclose the biometric identifier  
54 to another person unless pursuant to a grand jury subpoena or court  
55 ordered warrant, subpoena, or other authorized court ordered process.

1     (2) Shall store, transmit and protect from disclosure the biometric  
2 identifier using reasonable care and in a manner that is the same as or  
3 more protective than the manner in which the person stores, transmits  
4 and protects confidential information the person possesses; and

5     (3) Shall destroy the biometric identifier within a reasonable time,  
6 but not later than forty-eight hours after the date collected, except  
7 for reference data. If any prohibited information is collected, such as  
8 the likeness of a minor or a non-tenant, the information shall be  
9 destroyed immediately.

10    c. The owner of the multiple dwelling, or the managing agent, must  
11 develop written procedures which describe the process used to add  
12 persons authorized by the tenant to electronic and/or computerized entry  
13 systems on a temporary or permanent basis, such as visitors, children,  
14 their employees, and caregivers to such building.

15     (i) The procedures must clearly establish the owner's retention sched-  
16 ule and guidelines for permanently destroying or anonymizing the data  
17 collected.

18     (ii) The procedures cannot limit time or place of entrance by such  
19 people authorized by the tenant except as requested by the tenant.

20    5. Prohibitions. a. No form of location tracking, including but not  
21 limited to satellite location based services, shall be included in any  
22 equipment, key, or software provided to tenants or guests as part of an  
23 electronic and/or computerized entry system.

24     b. It shall be prohibited to collect through an electronic and/or  
25 computerized entry system the likeness of a minor occupant, information  
26 on the relationship status of tenants, lessees and/or guests, or to use  
27 a smart access system to collect or track information about the frequen-  
28 cy and time of use of such system by a tenant and/or guests to harass or  
29 evict a tenant or for any other purpose not expressly related to the  
30 operation of the smart access system.

31     c. Information that is acquired via the use of an electronic and/or  
32 computerized entry system shall not be used for any purposes other than  
33 monitoring building entrances and shall not be used as the basis or  
34 support for an action to evict a lessee or tenant, or an administrative  
35 hearing seeking a change in regulatory coverage for an individual or  
36 unit. However, a tenant may authorize their information to be used by a  
37 third party, but such a request must clearly state who will have access  
38 to such information, for what purpose it will be used, and the privacy  
39 policies which will protect their information. Under no circumstances  
40 may a lease or a renewal be contingent upon authorizing such use. Elec-  
41 tronic and/or computerized systems may use third-party services to the  
42 extent required to maintain and operate system infrastructure, including  
43 cloud-based hosting and storage. The provider or providers of third-par-  
44 ty infrastructure services must meet or exceed the privacy protections  
45 set forth in this section and will be subject to the same liability for  
46 breach of any of the requirements of this section.

47     d. Information and data collected shall not be made available to any  
48 third party, unless authorized as described above, including but not  
49 limited to law enforcement, except upon a grand jury subpoena or a court  
50 ordered warrant, subpoena, or other authorized court ordered process.

51    6. Storage of information. Any information or data collected shall be  
52 stored in a secure manner to prevent unauthorized access by both employ-  
53 ees and contractors and those unaffiliated with the landlord or their  
54 agents, except as otherwise provided in this section. Future or continu-  
55 ing tenancy shall not be conditioned upon consenting to the use of an  
56 electronic and/or computerized entry system.

1     7. Software issues. Whenever a company that produces, makes available  
2 or installs electronic or computerized entry systems discovers a securi-  
3 ty breach or critical security vulnerability in their software, such  
4 company shall notify customers of such vulnerability within a reasonable  
5 time of discovery but no later than twenty-four hours after discovery  
6 and shall make software updates available and take any other action as  
7 may be necessary to repair the vulnerability within a reasonable time,  
8 but not longer than thirty days after discovery. Smart access systems  
9 and vendors shall implement and maintain reasonable security procedures  
10 and practices appropriate to the nature of the information collected. In  
11 the event that a security breach or critical security vulnerability that  
12 pertains to the embedded software or firmware on the smart access  
13 systems is discovered, smart access systems and their vendors shall:

14     a. be able to create updates to the firmware to correct the vulner-  
15 abilities;

16     b. contractually commit to customers that the smart access system or  
17 vendor will create updates to the embedded software or firmware to reme-  
18 dy the vulnerabilities; and

19     c. make such security-related software or firmware updates available  
20 for free to customers for the duration of the contract between smart  
21 access buildings and smart access systems.

22     8. Waiver of rights; void. Any agreement by a lessee or tenant of a  
23 dwelling waiving or modifying his or her rights as set forth in this  
24 section shall be void as contrary to public policy.

25     9. Penalties. (a) A person who violates this section is subject to a  
26 civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars for each violation.  
27 The attorney general may bring an action to recover the civil penalty.  
28 An individual injured by a violation of this section may bring an action  
29 to recover damages. A court may also award attorneys' fees to a prevail-  
30 ing plaintiff.

31     (b) Where a landlord or his or her agent uses an electronic or comput-  
32 erized entry system to harass or otherwise deprive a tenant of any  
33 rights available under law, such landlord or agent shall be subject to a  
34 civil penalty of ten thousand dollars for each violation.

35     (c) For purposes of this subdivision, each day the violation occurs  
36 shall be considered a separate violation.

37     10. Rent regulated dwellings. Installation of an electronic or comput-  
38 erized entry system pursuant to this section in a rent regulated dwell-  
39 ing shall constitute a modification of services requiring the landlord  
40 of such dwelling or his or her agent to apply to the division of housing  
41 and community renewal for approval before performing such installation.  
42 Such installation shall not qualify as a basis for rent reduction.

43     11. Exemptions. a. Nothing herein shall apply to multiple dwellings  
44 owned or managed by an entity subject to 42 U.S.C. § 1437 et seq., or  
45 any of its subsidiaries.

46     b. Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of the division  
47 of housing and community renewal to impose additional requirements  
48 regarding electronic or computerized entry systems installed in multiple  
49 dwellings for which the division is required to approve substitutions or  
50 modifications of services.

51     § 2. The multiple residence law is amended by adding a new section  
52 130-a to read as follows:

53     § 130-a. Electronic or computerized entry systems. 1. Definitions. For  
54 the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the follow-  
55 ing meanings:



1 (a) "Account information" means information that is used to grant a  
2 user entry or access to any online tools that are used to manage user  
3 accounts related to an electronic and/or computerized entry system.

4 (b) "Authentication data" means data generated or collected at a point  
5 of authentication in connection with granting a user entry to a class A  
6 multiple dwelling or common area with an electronic or computerized  
7 entry system, except that "authentication data" shall not include data  
8 generated through or collected by a video or camera system that is used  
9 to monitor entrances but not to grant entry.

10 (c) "Critical security vulnerability" means a security vulnerability  
11 that has a significant risk of resulting in an unauthorized access to an  
12 area secured by an electronic and/or computerized entry system.

13 (d) "Reference data" means information against which authentication  
14 data is verified at a point of authentication by a smart access system  
15 in order to grant a user entry to a smart access building or common area  
16 of such building.

17 (e) "Security breach" means any incident that results in unauthorized  
18 access of data, applications, services, networks and/or devices by  
19 bypassing underlying security mechanisms. A "security breach" occurs  
20 when an individual or an application illegitimately enters a private,  
21 confidential or unauthorized logical information technology perimeter.

22 2. Entry. (a) Where a landlord installs or plans to install an elec-  
23 tronic or computerized entry system on any entrance from the street,  
24 passageway, court, yard, cellar, or other common area of a class A  
25 multiple dwelling, such system shall not rely solely on a web-based  
26 application to facilitate entrance but shall also include a key fob, key  
27 card, digital key or passcode for tenant use.

28 (b) Landlords may provide various methods of entry into individual  
29 apartments including a mechanical key or an electronic or computerized  
30 entry system of a key fob, key card or digital key, provided, however  
31 that such electronic or computerized entry system shall not rely solely  
32 on a web-based application.

33 (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) or (b) of this subdivision, land-  
34 lords shall provide a non-electronic means of entry where requested by  
35 the tenant due to a religious preference.

36 (d) All lawful tenants and occupants shall be provided with a key, key  
37 fob, digital key or key card at no cost to such tenants. The term "occu-  
38 pants" shall include children under the age of eighteen who shall be  
39 issued a key, key fob, digital key or key card if a parent or guardian  
40 requests such child be provided with one. Tenants may also receive up to  
41 four additional keys, key fobs, digital key or key cards at no cost to  
42 the tenant for employees or guests. The term "guests" shall include  
43 family members and friends who can reasonably be expected to visit on a  
44 regular basis or visit as needed to care for the tenant or the apartment  
45 if the tenant is away. Employees, including contractors, professional  
46 caregivers or other services providers, may have an expiration date  
47 placed on their key, key card, digital key or key fob, which may be  
48 extended upon the tenant's or occupant's request. Tenants may request a  
49 new or replacement key, key fob, digital key or key card at any time  
50 throughout the course of the tenancy. The landlord or his or her agent  
51 shall provide the first replacement key, key fob, digital key or key  
52 card to the tenant free of charge. The cost of second and subsequent  
53 replacement cards shall not be more than what the landlord paid for the  
54 replacement up to and not exceeding twenty-five dollars.

55 (e) The landlord shall not set limits on the number of keys, key fobs,  
56 digital keys or key cards a lawful tenant or occupant may request.

1 (f) Any door that has an electronic or computerized entry system shall  
2 have backup power or an alternative means of entry to ensure that the  
3 entry system continues to operate during a power outage. A landlord, or  
4 his or her agent, shall routinely inspect the backup power and shall  
5 replace according to system specifications. Owners or their agents shall  
6 provide lawful tenants and occupants with information about whom to  
7 contact in the event that the tenant, occupant or the tenant's or occu-  
8 pant's children, guests or employees become locked out.

9 3. Notice. Landlords or their agents shall provide notice to a tenant  
10 at the time the tenant signs the lease, or when the electronic or  
11 computerized entry system is installed, of the provisions of subdivision  
12 two of this section.

13 4. Data collection. (a) If an electronic and/or computerized entry  
14 system is utilized to gain entrance to a class A multiple dwelling, the  
15 only reference, authentication, and account information gathered by any  
16 electronic and/or computerized entry system shall be limited to account  
17 information used to grant a user entry or to access any online tools  
18 used to manage user accounts related to the electronic and/or computer-  
19 ized entry system, or reference data, such as the lessee or tenant's  
20 name, apartment number, the preferred method of contact for such lessee  
21 or tenant, other doors or common areas to which the user has access,  
22 move-in and, if available move-out dates, and authentication data such  
23 as time and method of access for security purposes and a photograph of  
24 access events for security purposes. For electronic and computerized  
25 entry systems that rely on the collection of biometric data and which  
26 have already been installed at the time this section shall have become a  
27 law, a biometric identifier may be collected pursuant to this section in  
28 order to register a lessee or tenant for an electronic and/or computer-  
29 ized entry system. No new electronic and/or computerized entry systems  
30 that rely on the collection of biometric data shall be installed in  
31 class A multiple dwellings for three years after the effective date of  
32 this section.

33 (i) The owner of the multiple dwelling may collect only the minimum  
34 data required by the technology used in the electronic and/or computer-  
35 ized entry system to effectuate such entrance and protect the privacy  
36 and security of such tenants.

37 (ii) The owner or agent of the owner shall not request or retain, in  
38 any form, the social security number of any tenant or occupant as a  
39 condition of use of the electronic or computerized entry system.

40 (iii) The owner, agent of the owner, or the vendor of an electronic or  
41 computerized entry system on behalf of the owner may record each time a  
42 key fob, key card, digital key or passcode is used to enter the build-  
43 ing, but shall not record any departures.

44 (iv) A copy of such data may be retained for reference at the point of  
45 authentication by the electronic and/or computerized entry system. Such  
46 reference data may be retained only for tenants or those authorized by  
47 the tenant or owner of the multiple dwelling.

48 (v) The owner of the multiple dwelling shall destroy or anonymize  
49 authentication data within a reasonable time, but not later than ninety  
50 days after the date collected.

51 (vi) Reference data for a tenant or those authorized by a tenant shall  
52 be destroyed or anonymized within ninety days of (1) the tenant perma-  
53 nently vacating the dwelling, or (2) a request by the tenant to withdraw  
54 authorization for those previously authorized by the tenant.

1     (b) (i) For the purposes of this section, "biometric identifier" means  
2 a retina or iris scan, fingerprint, voiceprint, or record of hand, face  
3 geometry or other similar feature.

4     (ii) An entity may not capture a biometric identifier of an individual  
5 to gain entrance to a class A multiple dwelling unless the person is a  
6 tenant or person authorized by the tenant, and informs the individual  
7 before capturing the biometric identifier; and receives their express  
8 consent to capture the biometric identifier.

9     (iii) Any entity that possesses a biometric identifier of an individ-  
10 ual that is captured to gain entrance to a class A multiple dwelling:

11     (1) May not sell, lease or otherwise disclose the biometric identifier  
12 to another person unless pursuant to a grand jury subpoena or court  
13 ordered warrant, subpoena, or other authorized court ordered process.

14     (2) Shall store, transmit and protect from disclosure the biometric  
15 identifier using reasonable care and in a manner that is the same as or  
16 more protective than the manner in which the person stores, transmits  
17 and protects confidential information the person possesses; and

18     (3) Shall destroy the biometric identifier within a reasonable time,  
19 but not later than forty-eight hours after the date collected, except  
20 for reference data. If any prohibited information is collected, such as  
21 the likeness of a minor or a non-tenant, the information shall be  
22 destroyed immediately.

23     (c) The owner of the multiple dwelling, or the managing agent, must  
24 develop written procedures which describe the process used to add  
25 persons authorized by the tenant to electronic and/or computerized entry  
26 systems on a temporary or permanent basis, such as visitors, children,  
27 their employees, and caregivers to such building.

28     (i) The procedures must clearly establish the owner's retention sched-  
29 ule and guidelines for permanently destroying or anonymizing the data  
30 collected.

31     (ii) The procedures cannot limit time or place of entrance by such  
32 people authorized by the tenant except as requested by the tenant.

33     5. Prohibitions. (a) No form of location tracking, including but not  
34 limited to satellite location based services, shall be included in any  
35 equipment, key, or software provided to tenants or guests as part of an  
36 electronic and/or computerized entry system.

37     (b) It shall be prohibited to collect through an electronic and/or  
38 computerized entry system the likeness of a minor occupant, information  
39 on the relationship status of tenants, lessees and/or guests, or to use  
40 a smart access system to collect or track information about the frequen-  
41 cy and time of use of such system by a tenant and/or guests to harass or  
42 evict a tenant or for any other purpose not expressly related to the  
43 operation of the smart access system.

44     (c) Information that is acquired via the use of an electronic and/or  
45 computerized entry system shall not be used for any purposes other than  
46 monitoring building entrances and shall not be used as the basis or  
47 support for an action to evict a lessee or tenant, or an administrative  
48 hearing seeking a change in regulatory coverage for an individual or  
49 unit. However, a tenant may authorize their information to be used by a  
50 third party, but such a request must clearly state who will have access  
51 to such information, for what purpose it will be used, and the privacy  
52 policies which will protect their information. Under no circumstances  
53 may a lease or a renewal be contingent upon authorizing such use. Elec-  
54 tronic and/or computerized systems may use third-party services to the  
55 extent required to maintain and operate system infrastructure, including  
56 cloud-based hosting and storage. The provider or providers of third-par-



1 ty infrastructure services must meet or exceed the privacy protections  
2 set forth in this section and will be subject to the same liability for  
3 breach of any of the requirements of this section.

4 (d) Information and data collected shall not be made available to any  
5 third party, unless authorized as described above, including but not  
6 limited to law enforcement, except upon a grand jury subpoena or a court  
7 ordered warrant, subpoena, or other authorized court ordered process.

8 6. Storage of information. Any information or data collected shall be  
9 stored in a secure manner to prevent unauthorized access by both employ-  
10 ees and contractors and those unaffiliated with the landlord or their  
11 agents, except as otherwise provided in this section. Future or continu-  
12 ing tenancy shall not be conditioned upon consenting to the use of an  
13 electronic and/or computerized entry system.

14 7. Software issues. Whenever a company that produces, makes available  
15 or installs electronic or computerized entry systems discovers a securi-  
16 ty breach or critical security vulnerability in their software, such  
17 company shall notify customers of such vulnerability within a reasonable  
18 time of discovery but no later than twenty-four hours after discovery  
19 and shall make software updates available and take any other action as  
20 may be necessary to repair the vulnerability within a reasonable time,  
21 but not longer than thirty days after discovery. Smart access systems  
22 and vendors shall implement and maintain reasonable security procedures  
23 and practices appropriate to the nature of the information collected. In  
24 the event that a security breach or critical security vulnerability that  
25 pertains to the embedded software or firmware on the smart access  
26 systems is discovered, smart access systems and their vendors shall:

27 (a) be able to create updates to the firmware to correct the vulner-  
28 abilities;

29 (b) contractually commit to customers that the smart access system or  
30 vendor will create updates to the embedded software or firmware to reme-  
31 dy the vulnerabilities; and

32 (c) make such security-related software or firmware updates available  
33 for free to customers for the duration of the contract between smart  
34 access buildings and smart access systems.

35 8. Waiver of rights; void. Any agreement by a lessee or tenant of a  
36 dwelling waiving or modifying his or her rights as set forth in this  
37 section shall be void as contrary to public policy.

38 9. Penalties. (a) A person who violates this section is subject to a  
39 civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars for each violation.  
40 The attorney general may bring an action to recover the civil penalty.  
41 An individual injured by a violation of this section may bring an action  
42 to recover damages. A court may also award attorneys' fees to a prevail-  
43 ing plaintiff.

44 (b) Where a landlord or his or her agent uses an electronic or comput-  
45 erized entry system to harass or otherwise deprive a tenant of any  
46 rights available under law, such landlord or agent shall be subject to a  
47 civil penalty of ten thousand dollars for each violation.

48 (c) For purposes of this subdivision, each day the violation occurs  
49 shall be considered a separate violation.

50 10. Rent regulated dwellings. Installation of an electronic or comput-  
51 erized entry system pursuant to this section in a rent regulated dwell-  
52 ing shall constitute a modification of services requiring the landlord  
53 of such dwelling or his or her agent to apply to the division of housing  
54 and community renewal for approval before performing such installation.  
55 Such installation shall not qualify as a basis for rent reduction.

1 11. Exemptions. (a) Nothing herein shall apply to multiple dwellings  
2 owned or managed by an entity subject to 42 U.S.C. § 1437 et seq., or  
3 any of its subsidiaries.

4 (b) Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of the division  
5 of housing and community renewal to impose additional requirements  
6 regarding electronic or computerized entry systems installed in multiple  
7 dwellings for which the division is required to approve substitutions or  
8 modifications of services.

9 § 3. Severability. If any provision of this act, or any application of  
10 any provision of this act, is held to be invalid, that shall not affect  
11 the validity or effectiveness of any other provision of this act, or of  
12 any other application of any provision of this act, which can be given  
13 effect without that provision or application; and to that end, the  
14 provisions and applications of this act are severable.

15 § 4. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
16 it shall have become a law.