HB 7093, Engrossed 1 2009

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to public records; providing an exemption from public records requirements for specified proprietary business information obtained from a telecommunications company or broadband company by the Department of Management Services; providing for future review and repeal; providing a statement of public necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

- Section 1. <u>Telecommunications and broadband company</u> proprietary business information; public records exemption.—
- (1) Any proprietary business information obtained from a telecommunications company or broadband company by the Department of Management Services, or any person or agency authorized by the department, is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.
- (2) For the purposes of the exemption provided in subsection (1), "proprietary confidential business information" includes any proprietary or otherwise confidential information or documentation, including plans, billing and payment records, trade secrets, or other information, that is intended to be and is treated by the telecommunications or broadband company as confidential and is not otherwise publicly available to the same extent and in the same format as requested by the department.

 Proprietary confidential business information does not include aggregate information related to the geographic scope of the

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availability of broadband services or the speed of services that are available in the state so long as the information does not directly or indirectly identify a provider of broadband services.

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(4) This section is subject to the Open Government Sunset
Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed
on October 2, 2014, unless reviewed and saved from repeal
through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that proprietary business information obtained from a telecommunications company or broadband company by the Department of Management Services, or any person or agency authorized by the department, be held confidential and exempt from public records requirements. Disclosure of proprietary confidential business information would adversely affect the business interests of telecommunications and broadband companies providing such information by harming them in the marketplace and compromising the security of the communications network. Further, disclosure of such proprietary confidential business information would impair competition in the communications industry. Competitors can use such information to impede full and fair competition in the telecommunications marketplace to the disadvantage of the consumers of telecommunications services. Thus, it is the finding of the Legislature that proprietary business information obtained from a telecommunications company or broadband company by the Department of Management Services, or any person or agency authorized by the department, must be held confidential and

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exempt from disclosure under s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

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Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date that HB 7091 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes law.