THE FLORIDA SENATE 2021 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED

Committee on Ethics and Elections

CS/HB 1639 — Pub. Rec./Network Schematics, Hardware and Software Configurations, or Encryption/Supervisors of Elections

by Government Operations Subcommittee and Rep. Grant (CS/SB 1704 by Government Oversight and Accountability and Senator Broxson)

The bill creates a public records exemption for portions of records held by a supervisor of elections that contain network schematics, hardware and software configurations, or encryption, or which identify detection, investigation, or response practices for suspected or confirmed information technology security incidents.

The bill provides that the confidential and exempt records must be made available to the Auditor General and may be made available to another governmental entity for information technology security purposes or in the furtherance of the entity's official duties.

The bill provides for retroactive application of the public records exemption. It also provides that the exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act and will repeal on October 2, 2026, unless reviewed and saved from repeal by the Legislature.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 38-0: House 117-0

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