

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to public records; amending s.  
3           828.30, F.S.; providing an exemption from  
4           public records requirements for information  
5           contained in a rabies vaccination certificate;  
6           authorizing disclosure to certain public  
7           agencies and to other persons under certain  
8           conditions; providing for future review and  
9           repeal; providing a finding of public  
10          necessity; providing an effective date.

11  
12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14           Section 1. Present subsections (4) and (5) of section  
15   828.30, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (5)  
16   and (6), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to  
17   that section, to read:

18           828.30 Rabies vaccination of dogs and cats.--  
19           (4) Any information contained in the rabies  
20   vaccination certificate provided to the animal control  
21   authority which identifies the owner of the animal vaccinated  
22   is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a),  
23   Art. I of the State Constitution. However, the physician of  
24   any person who has been bitten, scratched, or otherwise  
25   exposed to a zoonotic disease and a veterinarian who is  
26   treating an animal that has been bitten, scratched, or  
27   otherwise exposed to a zoonotic disease, shall be provided  
28   with any information contained in a rabies vaccination  
29   certificate but only with respect to the particular animal  
30   biting, scratching, or otherwise causing exposure. Federal,  
31   state, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies;

1 other animal control authorities; and emergency and medical  
2 response, disease control, or other governmental health  
3 agencies shall be provided information contained in the rabies  
4 vaccination certificate for the purpose of controlling the  
5 transmission of rabies but must not provide this information  
6 to the public. Any person, pursuant to a written request, may  
7 view or copy any individual rabies vaccination certificate  
8 held by an agency, one record at a time.

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10 This exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review  
11 Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15, and shall stand  
12 repealed on October 2, 2002, unless reviewed and saved from  
13 repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

14 (5)(4) Violation of this section is a civil  
15 infraction, punishable as provided in s. 828.27(2).

16 (6)(5) This section does not prohibit or limit  
17 municipalities or counties from enacting requirements similar  
18 to or more stringent than the provisions of this section for  
19 the implementation and enforcement of rabies-control  
20 ordinances.

21 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public  
22 necessity that identifying information contained in a rabies  
23 vaccination certificate be confidential and exempt from public  
24 records requirements. Animal owners could be reluctant to have  
25 their animals vaccinated against rabies for fear of receiving  
26 unwanted sales solicitations. An increase in the number of  
27 unvaccinated animals would hinder the ability of animal  
28 control authorities to protect the public against the spread  
29 of rabies and endanger the public health, safety, and welfare.

30 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming  
31 law.