

By the Committee on Children & Family Empowerment and
Representative Chestnut

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public records; amending s.
3 411.01, F.S.; providing for access to a child's
4 records by the Florida Partnership for Children
5 First, Inc.; providing an exemption from public
6 records requirements for identifying
7 information in records relating to children
8 eligible for programs under the partnership's
9 jurisdiction; specifying that any information
10 received that is otherwise confidential shall
11 remain confidential; providing for disclosure
12 with the consent of the parent or guardian;
13 providing for future review and repeal;
14 providing a finding of public necessity;
15 providing a contingent effective date.

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

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19 Section 1. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (4) of
20 section 411.01, Florida Statutes, to read:

21 411.01 Florida Partnership for Children First, Inc.;
22 Children First Coalitions.--

23 (4) FLORIDA PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN FIRST, INC.
24 (CHILDREN FIRST PARTNERSHIP).--

25 (g) The Florida Partnership for Children First, Inc.,
26 shall have access to federal, state, and local agency records
27 regarding a child upon receipt of permission from a parent or
28 guardian of the child. Any identifying information in records
29 relating to children who are eligible for programs under the
30 jurisdiction of the Children First Partnership is confidential
31 and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State

1 Constitution. Any information received that is otherwise
2 confidential and exempt shall remain confidential as provided
3 by law. Neither the Children First Partnership nor the staff
4 or agents of the Children First Partnership may release,
5 without the written consent of the parent or guardian of the
6 child, to any state or federal agency, to any private business
7 or person, or to any other entity, any confidential
8 information received pursuant to this paragraph. This
9 paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act
10 of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15, and shall stand repealed
11 on October 2, 2003, unless reviewed and saved from repeal
12 through reenactment by the Legislature.

13 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
14 necessity that any identifying information in records relating
15 to children who are eligible for programs under the
16 jurisdiction of the Florida Partnership for Children First,
17 Inc., be held confidential and exempt from public disclosure.
18 Disclosure of such information would be an invasion of the
19 family's right to privacy and could threaten the welfare of
20 the child. Many of these children are at-risk children with
21 special needs who would be particularly vulnerable to the
22 discrimination that could result from such disclosure. Thus,
23 the harm that would result from disclosure of such information
24 far outweighs any public benefit which could be derived from
25 such disclosure.

26 Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date
27 as s. 411.01, Florida Statutes, takes effect, if Committee
28 Substitute for House Bills 683 and 2131 or similar legislation
29 creating said section is adopted in the same legislative
30 session or an extension thereof.

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