

Amendment No. 01 (for drafter's use only)

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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ORIGINAL STAMP BELOW

11 The Committee on Governmental Operations offered the
12 following:

14 **Amendment**

15 On page 2, lines 1 through page 3, line 5,
16 remove from the bill: all of said lines

17
18 and insert in lieu thereof:

19 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
20 necessity that the personal information of employees of health
21 care facilities specified in this act be exempt from public
22 records requirements. Employees in these facilities provide
23 treatment and care to a wide spectrum of individuals
24 including, among others, prisoners, criminal suspects brought
25 for treatment by local law enforcement officers prior to
26 incarceration, patients under the influence of drugs or
27 alcohol at the time of treatment, and patients who have been
28 admitted for treatment of mental illnesses, including
29 involuntary admissions under the Baker Act. It is not uncommon
30 for employees of these facilities to be threatened by patients
31 or family members of patients who may be angry or upset with

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1 the nature of the treatment or the circumstances under which
2 it has been provided. If these individuals gain access to the
3 personal information specified in this act, then they could
4 use the information to threaten, intimidate, harass, or cause
5 physical harm or other injury to the employees of these health
6 care facilities or their families. This concern is not mere
7 speculation. Incidents have occurred in which patients have
8 inflicted injuries upon health care providers which have
9 resulted in the death of the provider. The Legislature further
10 finds that incidents have occurred in which the personal
11 records of employees have been requested under circumstances
12 which could have threatened the safety or welfare of the
13 employees or their families, whether or not actual harm
14 resulted. Because release of this personal information would
15 not benefit the public or aid it in monitoring the effective
16 and efficient operation of government, but could result in
17 harm to the specified employees or their families, the
18 Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that the
19 personal information specified in this act be exempt from
20 public records requirements. This exemption is consistent with
21 the longstanding policy of the state as reflected in s.
22 119.07(3)(i), Florida Statutes.

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