Florida Senate - 1999

SB 1596

By Senator Bronson

	18-1060A-99
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to public records; providing an
3	exemption from public records requirements for
4	court documents that might identify a pregnant
5	minor who petitions for a waiver of the notice
6	requirements pertaining to her request to have
7	her pregnancy terminated; requesting that the
8	Supreme Court adopt rules ensuring the
9	confidentiality of such proceedings; providing
10	for future review and repeal; providing
11	findings of public necessity; providing a
12	contingent effective date.
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14	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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16	Section 1. When a minor petitions a circuit court for
17	a waiver of the notice requirements pertaining to the minor's
18	seeking to terminate her pregnancy, the court proceedings
19	relating to that petition must ensure the anonymity of the
20	minor, and the identity of the minor is confidential and
21	exempt from the provisions of section 119.07(1), Florida
22	Statutes, and Section 24(a), Article I of the State
23	Constitution. All such court proceedings shall be sealed. The
24	minor has the right to use a pseudonym or her initials only in
25	filing her petition in the circuit court. All documents
26	related to this petition which in any way might identify the
27	minor shall be confidential and shall not be available to the
28	public. In addition, the Supreme Court is requested to adopt
29	rules to ensure that such documents are handled in a
30	confidential manner. This section is subject to the Open
31	Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance with
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1 section 119.15, Florida Statutes, and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2004, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through 2 3 reenactment by the Legislature. 4 Section 2. The Legislature finds that exempting from 5 the public records law requirements information that might б identify a minor who petitions for the termination of her 7 pregnancy is a public necessity in that the minor would likely be in danger of retribution from the parent or guardian 8 9 against whom she has made allegations of child abuse, neglect, 10 sexual abuse, or likelihood that notifying them is not in her best interest, if her identity were made public. 11 Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date 12 13 or similar legislation creating the that Senate Bill "Parental Notice of Abortion Act" takes effect, if such 14 15 legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an 16 extension thereof. 17 18 19 SENATE SUMMARY 20 Provides an exemption from public records requirements for court documents that might identify a pregnant minor who petitions for a waiver of the notice requirements pertaining to her request to have her pregnancy terminated. Requests that the Supreme Court adopt rules ensuring the confidentiality of such documents. Provides for future review and repeal. Provides findings of public 21 22 23 necessity. 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 2

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