By Senator Carlton

24-1261-99

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to public records; providing an exemption from public records requirements for business records of a business owner subject to a governmental condemning authority in an eminent domain proceeding; providing an expiration date; providing a finding of public necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

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

Section 1. Business records provided by the owner of a business to a governmental condemning authority as part of an offer of business damages pursuant to section 73.015, Florida Statutes, are exempt from the disclosure provisions of Section 24(a) of Article I of the State Constitution and section 119.07(1), Florida Statutes. This exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with section 119.15, Florida Statutes, and expires on October 2, 2004, unless reviewed and reenacted by the Legislature.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that the business records of an owner who provides a governmental condemning authority business records as part of a presuit offer of business damages in an eminent domain proceeding be held confidential in order to encourage presuit settlements. Furthermore, the Legislature finds that it would be an invasion of privacy for these sensitive business records to be revealed to the public.

Section 3. This act shall take effect on the effective date of SB 940, relating to eminent domain, and shall not take effect if that legislation does not become a law. SENATE SUMMARY Provides an exemption from public records requirements for business records of a business owner subject to a governmental condemning authority in an eminent domain proceeding.