

By the Committee on Governmental Oversight and Productivity;
and Senators Brown-Waite, Smith and Crist

302-465B-02

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to public records; amending s.
119.07, F.S.; providing that cellular telephone
numbers of law enforcement officers are exempt
from public-records requirements; providing a
statement of public necessity; providing an
effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (ee) is added to subsection (3)
of section 119.07, Florida Statutes, to read:

119.07 Inspection, examination, and duplication of
records; exemptions.--

(3)

(ee) The cellular telephone number of a law
enforcement officer or former law enforcement officer which is
used in the course of his or her employment in this state is
exempt from the requirements of subsection (1) and s. 24(a),
Art. I of the State Constitution. This paragraph is subject to
the Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance
with s. 119.15 except that it shall stand repealed October 2,
2003, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through
reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that the exemption
from public-records requirements provided in section
119.07(3)(ee), Florida Statutes, is a public necessity because
law enforcement officers or former law enforcement officers
can be identified as such by connecting them with their
cellular telephone numbers that are used in the course of
their employment. The identification of law enforcement

1 officers through cellular telephone numbers can compromise
2 investigations, undermine those officers' ability to apprehend
3 suspects, and compromise the physical safety of law
4 enforcement officers. Cellular telephone numbers of former law
5 enforcement officers which were used in the course of their
6 employment, if made public, could also jeopardize on-going
7 investigations, law enforcement informers and contacts, as
8 well as the safety of former law enforcement officers because
9 such numbers could be used to connect a former law enforcement
10 officer with an investigation. Consequently, the Legislature
11 finds that cellular telephone numbers of law enforcement
12 officers and former law enforcement officers that are used in
13 the course of their employment must be kept confidential.

14 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
15 law.

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17 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
19 Senate Bill 64-B

20 Creates an exemption for cellular telephones numbers of
21 current or former law enforcement officers.

22 Sunsets exemption on October 2, 2003, unless reviewed and
reenacted by the Legislature prior to that date.

23 Provides a statement of public necessity.
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