

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

302-467B-02

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public records; amending s.
3 119.07, F.S.; providing that electronic paging
4 device numbers of law enforcement officers are
5 exempt from public-records requirements;
6 providing a statement of public necessity;
7 providing an effective date.
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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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11 Section 1. Paragraph (ee) is added to subsection (3)
12 of section 119.07, Florida Statutes, to read:
13 119.07 Inspection, examination, and duplication of
14 records; exemptions.--
15 (3)
16 (ee) The electronic paging device number of a law
17 enforcement officer or former law enforcement officer which is
18 used in the course of his or her employment in this state is
19 exempt from the requirements of subsection (1) and s. 24(a),
20 Art. I of the State Constitution. This paragraph is subject to
21 the Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance
22 with s. 119.15 except that it shall stand repealed October 2,
23 2003, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through
24 reenactment by the Legislature.
25 Section 2. The Legislature finds that the exemption
26 from public-records requirements provided in section
27 119.07(3)(ee), Florida Statutes, is a public necessity because
28 law enforcement officers or former law enforcement officers
29 can be identified as such by connecting them with their
30 electronic paging device numbers that are used in the course
31 of their employment. The identification of law enforcement

1 officers through electronic paging device numbers can
2 compromise investigations, undermine those officers' ability
3 to apprehend suspects, and compromise the physical safety of
4 law enforcement officers. Electronic paging device numbers of
5 former law enforcement officers, if made public, could also
6 jeopardize on-going investigations, law enforcement informers
7 and contacts, as well as the safety of former law enforcement
8 officers because such numbers could be used to connect a law
9 enforcement officer to an investigation. Consequently, the
10 Legislature finds that electronic paging device numbers of law
11 enforcement officers and former law enforcement officers which
12 are used in the course of their employment must be kept
13 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 66-B

20
21 Creates an exemption from public records and meetings
22 requirements for electronic paging devices.

23 Provides the exemption sunsets on October 2, 2003, unless
24 reviewed and reenacted by the Legislature prior to that date.

25 Provides a statement of public necessity.
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