

By Representative Lynn

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to library records; amending s.
3 257.261, F.S.; revising provisions relating to
4 confidentiality of public library registration
5 and circulation records to authorize disclosure
6 of information to the parent or guardian of a
7 library patron under age 16, for the purpose of
8 collecting fines or recovering overdue books or
9 other materials; providing an effective date.

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

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13 Section 1. Section 257.261, Florida Statutes, is
14 amended to read:

15 257.261 Library registration and circulation
16 records.--All registration and circulation records of every
17 public library, except statistical reports of registration and
18 circulation, are confidential and exempt from the provisions
19 of s. 119.07(1) and from s. 24(a) of Art. I of the State
20 Constitution. Except in accordance with proper judicial order,
21 a person may not make known in any manner any information
22 contained in such records, except as provided in this section.
23 As used in this section, the term "registration records"
24 includes any information that a library requires a patron to
25 provide in order to become eligible to borrow books and other
26 materials, and the term "circulation records" includes all
27 information that identifies the patrons who borrow particular
28 books and other materials. This section does not prohibit any
29 library, or any business operating jointly with the library,
30 from disclosing information to the parent or guardian of a
31 public library patron under the age of 16 ~~municipal or county~~

1 ~~law enforcement officials, or to judicial officials,~~ for the
2 purpose of collecting fines or recovering overdue books,
3 documents, films, or other items or materials owned or
4 otherwise belonging to the library. This section does not
5 prohibit any library, or any business operating jointly with
6 the library, from disclosing information to municipal or
7 county law enforcement officials or to judicial officials or
8 to any business, for the purpose of collecting fines or
9 recovering overdue books, documents, films, or other items or
10 materials owned or otherwise belonging to the library;
11 provided that, in the case of a public library patron under
12 the age of 16, the a public library or business entity may
13 only release confidential information relating to the parent
14 or guardian of the person under 16. Any person who violates
15 this section commits ~~is guilty of~~ a misdemeanor of the second
16 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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20 HOUSE SUMMARY

21 Revises provisions relating to confidentiality of public
22 library registration and circulation records to authorize
23 disclosure of information to the parent or guardian of a
24 library patron under age 16, for the purpose of
collecting fines or recovering overdue books or other
materials.