

Amendment No. \_\_\_\_ (for drafter's use only)

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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The Committee on State Administration offered the following:

**Amendment (with title amendment)**

Remove everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (8) is added to section 717.117, Florida Statutes, to read:

717.117 Report of unclaimed property.--

(8) Social security numbers and financial account numbers contained in reports required under this section, held by the Department of Banking and Finance, are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. Notwithstanding this exemption, social security numbers shall be released, for the limited purpose of locating owners of abandoned or unclaimed property, to an attorney, Florida-certified public accountant, private investigator who is duly licensed in this state, or a private investigative agency licensed under chapter 493 and registered with the Department of Banking and Finance under chapter 717. This exemption applies to social security numbers and financial

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1 account numbers held by the Department of Banking and Finance  
2 before, on, or after the effective date of this exemption.  
3 This subsection is subject to the Open Government Sunset  
4 Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15, and shall  
5 stand repealed October 2, 2007, unless reviewed and saved from  
6 repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

7           Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public  
8 necessity that social security numbers and financial account  
9 numbers of apparent owners of abandoned or unclaimed property  
10 which are in the custody of the Department of Banking and  
11 Finance be made confidential and exempt in order to prevent  
12 identity theft and related crimes. The Legislature further  
13 finds that this exemption is a public necessity in order to  
14 prevent the use of such information in forged documents  
15 demonstrating entitlement to abandoned or unclaimed property  
16 and thereby defrauding the rightful property owner or the  
17 State School Fund. Additionally, the social security number is  
18 the only nationwide, unique numeric form of identification.  
19 Release of a person's social security number is of concern due  
20 to the amount of information such number can provide on an  
21 individual. A social security number is often the link to an  
22 individual's personal records, whether such records are  
23 financial, educational, medical, or familial in nature. It is  
24 necessary, however, to provide access to social security  
25 numbers to an attorney, Florida-certified public accountant,  
26 private investigator duly licensed in this state, or private  
27 investigative agencies that are licensed under chapter 493,  
28 Florida Statutes and registered with the Department of Banking  
29 and Finance in order to facilitate the location and return of  
30 unclaimed property to rightful owners. The Legislature further  
31 finds that attorneys, Florida-certified public accountants,

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1 private investigators, and private investigative agencies are  
2 subject to more stringent regulation and oversight than the  
3 public as a whole. In addition, such professionals are the  
4 only persons authorized to file claims on behalf of apparent  
5 owners of abandoned or unclaimed property pursuant to chapter  
6 717, Florida Statutes.

7 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
8 law.

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11 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

12 And the title is amended as follows:

13 On page 1, lines 2 through 12,  
14 remove: all of said lines

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16 and insert:

17 An act relating to public records; amending s.  
18 717.117, F.S.; creating an exemption from  
19 public records requirements for social security  
20 numbers and financial account numbers contained  
21 in reports required under s. 717.117, F.S.,  
22 held by the Department of Banking and Finance;  
23 providing exceptions to the exemption;  
24 providing retroactive application of the  
25 exemption; providing for future review and  
26 repeal; providing a statement of public  
27 necessity;

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