

By Senator Lynn

7-273-03

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to library records; amending s. 257.261, F.S.; revising provisions relating to confidentiality of public library registration and circulation records to authorize disclosure of information to the parent or guardian of a library patron under age 16, for the purpose of collecting fines or recovering overdue books or other materials; providing an effective date.

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

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

257.261 Library registration and circulation records.--All registration and circulation records of every public library, except statistical reports of registration and circulation, are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and from s. 24(a) of Art. I of the State Constitution. Except in accordance with proper judicial order, a person may not make known in any manner any information contained in such records, except as provided in this section. As used in this section, the term "registration records" includes any information that a library requires a patron to provide in order to become eligible to borrow books and other materials, and the term "circulation records" includes all information that identifies the patrons who borrow particular books and other materials. This section does not prohibit any library, or any business operating jointly with the library, from disclosing information to the parent or guardian of a 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. In the
11 case of a public library patron under the age of 16, however,
12 the a public library or business entity may only release
13 confidential information relating to the parent or guardian of
14 the person under 16. Any person who violates this section
15 commits ~~is guilty of~~ a misdemeanor of the second degree,
16 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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20 SENATE 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
25 collecting fines or recovering overdue books or other
26 materials.
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