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HB 0029A 2003

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to public records and public meetings exemptions; amending s. 1004.445, F.S.; creating a public records exemption for proprietary confidential business information owned or controlled by the Florida Alzheimer's Center and Research Institute; categorizing specified types of information as proprietary confidential business information; defining "managed care"; providing for access to proprietary confidential business information by specified agencies; creating a public meetings exemption for specified meetings or portions of meetings of the governing board of the Florida Alzheimer's Center and Research Institute; providing for future review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; providing for construction of the act in pari materia with laws enacted during the Regular Session of the Legislature; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 1004.445, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (10) is added to said section, to read:

1004.445 Florida Alzheimer's Center and Research Institute.--

- (9) $\underline{(a)}$ The following information is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24 $\underline{(a)}$, Art. I of the State Constitution:
- $\frac{1.(a)}{1.(a)}$ Personal identifying information relating to clients of programs created or funded through the Florida Alzheimer's

Page 1 of 7



HB 0029A 2003

Center and Research Institute which is held by the institute,

the University of South Florida, or the State Board of Education
or by persons who provide services to clients of programs
created or funded through contracts with the Florida Alzheimer's
Center and Research Institute;

- 2.(b) Any medical or health records relating to patients held which may be created or received by the institute; and
- 3.(e) Proprietary confidential business information. As used in this subparagraph, the term "proprietary confidential business information" means information, regardless of its form or characteristics, which is owned or controlled by the institute; is intended to be and is treated by the institute as private and the disclosure of which would harm the business operations of the institute; has not been intentionally disclosed by the institute unless pursuant to law, an order of a court or administrative body, a legislative proceeding pursuant to s. 5, Art. III of the State Constitution, or a private agreement that provides that the information may be released to the public; and which is information concerning:
- <u>a.</u> Materials that relate to methods of manufacture or production, potential trade secrets, potentially patentable material, actual trade secrets as defined in s. 688.002, or proprietary information received, generated, ascertained, or discovered during the course of research conducted by or through the institute and business transactions resulting from such research;
- <u>b.(d)</u> The identity of a donor or prospective donor to the <u>institute</u> Florida Alzheimer's Center and Research Institute who wishes to remain anonymous, and all information identifying such donor or prospective donor;



HB 0029A 2003

 $\underline{\text{c.}(e)}$ Any information received by the institute in the performance of its duties and responsibilities which is otherwise confidential and exempt by law; and

- d.(f) Any information received by the institute from a
 person from this or another state or nation or the Federal
 Government which is otherwise exempt or confidential or exempt
 pursuant to this or another that state's or nation's laws or
 pursuant to federal law;
- e. Internal auditing controls and reports of internal
 auditors;
- f. Contracts for managed-care arrangements, including preferred provider organization contracts, health maintenance organization contracts, and exclusive provider organization contracts, and any documents directly relating to the negotiation, performance, and implementation of any such contracts for managed-care arrangements;
- g. Bids or other contractual data, banking records, and credit agreements the disclosure of which would impair the efforts of the institute to contract for goods or services on favorable terms;
- h. Information relating to private contractual data, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive interest of the provider of the information;
 - i. Corporate officer and employee personnel information;
- j. Information relating to the proceedings and records of the credentialing panels and committees and of the governing board of the institute relating to credentialing;
- k. Minutes of meetings of the governing board of the institute, except minutes of meetings open to the public pursuant to subsection (10); and



HB 0029A 2003

1. Information that reveals plans for marketing services that the institute reasonably expects to be provided by competitors.

- As used in this subparagraph, the term "managed care" means systems or techniques generally used by third-party payors or their agents to affect access to and control payment for health care services. Managed-care techniques most often include one or more of the following: prior, concurrent, and retrospective review of the medical necessity and appropriateness of services or site of services; contracts with selected health care providers; financial incentives or disincentives related to the use of specific providers, services, or service sites; controlled access to and coordination of services by a case manager; and payor efforts to identify treatment alternatives and modify benefit restrictions for high-cost patient care.
- (b) The Auditor General, the Office of Program Policy
 Analysis and Government Accountability, and the State Board of
 Education, pursuant to their oversight and auditing functions,
 must be given access to all proprietary confidential business
 information upon request and without subpoena and must maintain
 the confidentiality of information so received.
- (c) Any governmental entity that demonstrates a need to access such confidential and exempt information in order to perform its duties and responsibilities shall have access to such information and shall otherwise keep such information confidential and exempt. This section is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s.

 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2006, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the



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HB 0029A 2003

121 Legislature.

(10) Meetings or portions of meetings of the governing board of the Florida Alzheimer's Center and Research Institute at which information is discussed that is made confidential and exempt pursuant to subsection (9) are exempt from s. 286.011 and s. 24(b), Art. I of the State Constitution.

Section 2. Subsections (9) and (10) of s. 1004.445,

Florida Statutes, are subject to the Open Government Sunset

Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15, Florida

Statutes, and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2008, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

The Legislature finds that it is a public Section 3. necessity that proprietary confidential business information owned or controlled by the Florida Alzheimer's Center and Research Institute; internal auditing controls and reports of internal auditors; contracts for managed-care arrangements and any documents directly relating to the negotiation, performance, and implementation of any such contracts for managed-care arrangements; bids or other contractual data, banking records, and credit agreements; information relating to private contractual data; corporate officer and employee personnel information; information relating to the proceedings and records of the credentialing panels and committees and of the governing board of the Florida Alzheimer's Center and Research Institute relating to credentialing; minutes of meetings of the governing board of the institute; and information that reveals plans for marketing services that the institute reasonably expects to be provided by competitors be made confidential and exempt from public disclosure. The institute must compete directly with its



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HB 0029A 2003 private-sector counterparts. Its economic survival depends on the institute's ability to so compete. As such, these exemptions are necessary because release of such information and records would adversely impact the institute in the competitive health care and medical research environment. Disclosure of such information and records would place the institute on an unequal footing in the marketplace as compared with private health care providers that are not required to disclose such confidential and exempt information and records. The highly confidential nature of Alzheimer-related research discoveries necessitates that the institute be authorized to maintain confidential information it receives from, or generates for, the sponsors of its research. Accordingly, disclosure of such information and records would impede the effective and efficient administration of the Florida Alzheimer's Center and Research Institute and would create an unfair competitive advantage for persons or entities receiving such information. Also, such information and records contain information of a sensitive, personal nature regarding corporate officers and employees. Disclosure of such information could be harmful to the officer or employee. It is likewise a public necessity that the meetings of the governing board of the institute be closed in order to protect the competitive interest of the institute and to guarantee the ability of the governing board to fulfill its Alzheimer's disease research and teaching mission for the benefit of the public. Closing access to such board meetings enables the boards to be more open and frank in the information so provided and discussed without the attendant fear that honest and truthful exchange of information will result in the public dissemination of information discussed that could be used to harm the



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HB 0029A 200	3
institute and its members. Furthermore, disclosing information	
and records made confidential and exempt pursuant to the	
institute's public records exemption via an open meeting defeats	
the purpose of the public records exemption.	

If any law amended by this act was also amended Section 4. by a law enacted at the 2003 Regular Session of the Legislature, such laws shall be construed as if they had been enacted at the same session of the Legislature, and full effect shall be given to each if possible.

Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Page 7 of 7