By Senator Garcia

40-938-06

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to public records; amending s.
3	215.44, F.S.; creating an exemption from
4	public-records requirements for certain
5	business information concerning alternative
6	investments of the State Board of
7	Administration; providing definitions;
8	specifying certain types of information which
9	are not included within the exemption from
10	public-records requirements; providing for
11	applicability of the exemption; requiring that
12	the proprietor of the information certify the
13	information as confidential; providing
14	procedures for such certification; providing
15	for recertification following a specified
16	period; authorizing a court to order the
17	release of portions of confidential records
18	upon making certain findings; providing for
19	future repeal and legislative review of the
20	exemption under the Open Government Sunset
21	Review Act; providing a statement of public
22	necessity; providing an effective date.
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24	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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26	Section 1. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (8) of
27	section 215.44, Florida Statutes, to read:
28	215.44 Board of Administration; powers and duties in
29	relation to investment of trust funds
30	(8)
31	(c)1. As used in this paragraph, the term:

1	a. "Alternative investment" means an investment by the
2	State Board of Administration in a private equity fund,
3	venture fund, hedge fund, or distress fund, or a direct
4	investment in a portfolio company through an investment
5	manager.
6	b. "Alternative investment vehicle" means the limited
7	partnership, limited liability company, or similar legal
8	structure or investment manager through which the State Board
9	of Administration invests in a portfolio company.
10	c. "Portfolio company" means a corporation or other
11	issuer, any of whose securities are owned by an alternative
12	investment vehicle or the State Board of Administration and
13	any subsidiary of such corporation or other issuer.
14	d. "Portfolio positions" means individual investments
15	in portfolio companies which are made by the alternative
16	investment vehicles, including information or specific
17	investment terms associated with any portfolio company
18	investment.
19	e. "Proprietor" means an alternative investment
20	vehicle, a portfolio company in which the alternative
21	investment vehicle is invested, or an outside consultant,
22	including their respective authorized officers, employees,
23	agents, or successors in interest, which controls or owns
24	information provided to the State Board of Administration.
25	f. "Proprietary confidential business information"
26	means information that is owned or controlled by a proprietor;
27	that is intended to be and is treated by the proprietor as
28	private, the disclosure of which would harm the business
29	operations of the proprietor and has not been intentionally
30	disclosed by the proprietor unless pursuant to a private
31	agreement that provides that the information will not be

1	released to the public except as required by law or legal
2	process, or pursuant to law or an order of a court or
3	administrative body; that has been certified by the proprietor
4	as provided under subparagraph 3.; and that concerns:
5	(I) Trade secrets as defined in s. 688.002.
6	(II) Information provided to the State Board of
7	Administration regarding a prospective investment in a private
8	equity fund, venture fund, hedge fund, distress fund, or
9	portfolio company which is proprietary to the provider of the
10	information.
11	(III) Financial statements and auditor reports of an
12	alternative investment vehicle.
13	(IV) Meeting materials of an alternative investment
14	vehicle relating to financial, operating, or marketing
15	information of the alternative investment vehicle.
16	(V) Information regarding the portfolio positions in
17	which the alternative investment vehicles invest.
18	(VI) Capital call and distribution notices to
19	investors of an alternative investment vehicle.
20	(VII) Alternative investment agreements and related
21	records.
22	(VIII) Information concerning investors, other than
23	the State Board of Administration, in an alternative
24	investment vehicle.
25	q. "Proprietary confidential business information"
26	does not include:
27	(I) The name, address, and vintage year of an
28	alternative investment vehicle and the identity of the
29	principals involved in the management of the alternative
30	investment vehicle.
31	

1	(II) The dollar amount of the commitment made by the
2	State Board of Administration to each alternative investment
3	vehicle since inception.
4	(III) The dollar amount and date of cash contributions
5	made by the State Board of Administration to each alternative
6	investment vehicle since inception.
7	(IV) The dollar amount, on a fiscal-year-end basis, of
8	cash distributions received by the State Board of
9	Administration from each alternative investment vehicle.
10	(V) The dollar amount, on a fiscal-year-end basis, of
11	cash distributions received by the State Board of
12	Administration plus the remaining value of alternative-vehicle
13	assets that are attributable to the State Board of
14	Administration's investment in each alternative investment
15	vehicle.
16	(VI) The net internal rate of return of each
17	alternative investment vehicle since inception.
18	(VII) The investment multiple of each alternative
19	investment vehicle since inception.
20	(VIII) The dollar amount of the total management fees
21	and costs paid on an annual fiscal-year-end basis by the State
22	Board of Administration to each alternative investment
23	vehicle.
24	(IX) The dollar amount of cash profit received by the
25	State Board of Administration from each alternative investment
26	vehicle on a fiscal-year-end basis.
27	2. Proprietary confidential business information held
28	by the State Board of Administration regarding alternative
29	investments is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and
30	s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution for 10 years after
31	the termination of the alternative investment unless the

1	proprietor of the information objects to the release of the
2	information and recertifies the information, in the manner
3	provided in subparagraph 3., no earlier than the ninth year
4	after termination of the alternative investment. Such
5	proprietary confidential business information may be used by
6	the State Board of Administration in any judicial or
7	administrative proceeding if the court or other presiding
8	officer takes such protective measures as the furtherance of
9	justice requires. This exemption applies to proprietary
10	confidential business information held by the State Board of
11	Administration before, on, or after October 1, 2006, and trade
12	secrets held by the State Board of Administration on October
13	1, 2006, shall remain protected to no less extent as before
14	October 1, 2006, without further action.
15	3. Within a reasonable period of time after a request
16	is made to inspect or copy a record under s. 119.07, the
17	proprietor may certify the record as proprietary confidential
18	business information by submitting to the State Board of
19	Administration a written declaration that is verified as
20	provided in s. 92.525 and that:
21	a. Identifies the proprietary confidential business
22	information and the specific location of that proprietary
23	confidential business information within the record submitted
24	to the State Board of Administration;
25	b. If a trade secret, certifies that the identified
26	information is a trade secret as defined in s. 688.002;
27	c. Certifies that the identified information is
28	intended to be and is treated by the proprietor as private, is
29	the subject of efforts of the proprietor to maintain its
30	privacy, and is not readily ascertainable or publicly
31	available from any other source; and

1	d. Certifies that the disclosure of the identified
2	information to the public would harm the business operations
3	of the proprietor.
4	4. Any person may petition a court of competent
5	jurisdiction for an order for the public release of those
6	portions of any record made confidential and exempt by
7	subparagraph 2. Any action pursuant to this subparagraph must
8	be brought in Leon County, Florida, and the petition or other
9	initial pleading shall be served on the State Board of
10	Administration and, if determinable upon diligent inquiry, on
11	the proprietor of the information sought to be released. In
12	any order for the public release of a record pursuant to this
13	subparagraph, the court shall make a finding that the record
14	or portion thereof is not a trade secret as defined in s.
15	688.002, that a compelling public interest is served by the
16	release of the record or portions thereof which exceed the
17	public necessity for maintaining the confidentiality of such
18	record, and that the release of the record will not cause
19	damage to or adversely affect the interests of the proprietor
20	of the released information, other private persons or business
21	entities, the State Board of Administration, or any trust fund
22	the assets of which are invested by the State Board of
23	Administration.
24	5. This paragraph is subject to the Open Government
25	Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15, and shall
26	stand repealed on October 2, 2011, unless reviewed and saved
27	from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.
28	Section 2. The Legislature finds that the
29	public-records exemption created by this act is a public
30	necessity. Proprietary confidential business information,
31	including trade secrets as defined in s 688 NNO Florida

Statutes, used in determining how private equity investments 2 are made or managed by private partnerships investing assets on behalf of the State Board of Administration should be made 3 4 confidential and exempt from public-records requirements. Disclosing such information would negatively affect the 5 6 business interests of private partnerships that rely heavily 7 on their information advantage to generate investment returns, 8 and competitor partnerships could gain an unfair competitive advantage if provided access to such information. Maintaining 9 10 the information advantage of highly skilled private equity investment managers is necessary in order for the State Board 11 12 of Administration to generate an adequate return from its 13 assets committed to this high-risk segment of the market, since only those managers having a strong information 14 advantage have generated adequate risk-adjusted returns. 15 Research shows that 60 percent of all private equity 16 partnerships have delivered a return less than that of the 18 lower-risk public markets. Only 30 percent of all private equity partnerships have been able to produce the State Board 19 of Administration's required premium over public-market 2.0 21 returns to justify incurring the risks associated with these 2.2 investments. The ninth and tenth deciles of private equity 23 managers are those having a substantial information advantage and they have generated sizable premiums over the public 2.4 markets, with net returns of 19.4 percent and 29.7 percent, 2.5 respectively. The Legislature finds that the exemption of 26 proprietary confidential information used in or implying how 2.7 2.8 private equity investments are made or managed is necessary for the effective and efficient administration of the State 29 Board of Administration's asset-management program. Assets of 30 the Florida Retirement System must grow rapidly in order to 31

1	keep pace with growth in the system's liabilities and to
2	manage the costs of employer contributions. In order to meet
3	its investment objectives, the State Board of Administration
4	must invest in diversified asset types, including high-return,
5	high-risk private equity partnerships. Those partnerships that
6	have and are able to maintain a substantial information
7	advantage over their competitors are likely to provide an
8	adequate return. The release of proprietary confidential
9	information, including trade secrets, revealing how private
10	equity investments are made or managed could result in
11	inadequate returns and ultimately frustrate attainment of the
12	investment objective of the State Board of Administration,
13	subsequently increasing contribution costs for employers in
14	the Florida Retirement System and lowering the system's funded
15	ratio. It is the Legislature's intent to allow the public
16	access to sufficient information in order to be informed
17	regarding the alternative investments of the State Board of
18	Administration, and to balance the public's right to
19	information against the right of private business entities to
20	be protected from harmful disclosure of confidential and
21	proprietary business information the disclosure of which
22	information would injure them in the marketplace, impair the
23	ability of the State Board of Administration to invest in the
24	best performing alternative investment vehicles, and diminish
25	investment earnings in the Florida Retirement System Trust
26	Fund. It is also the Legislature's intent to establish
27	predictability about what should and should not be disclosed
28	regarding alternative investments by the State Board of
29	Administration. In finding that the public-records exemption
30	created by this act is a public necessity, the Legislature
31	finds that the public and private harm in disclosing

1	proprietary confidential business information relating to
2	alternative investments by the State Board of Administration
3	significantly outweighs any public benefit derived from
4	disclosure; that the exemption created by this act will
5	enhance the ability of the State Board of Administration to
6	fulfill its duties as an investment fiduciary by making it
7	more effective and competitive in the marketplace as an
8	investor that is able to gain access to the best alternative
9	investment vehicles; and that the public's ability to be
10	informed regarding the alternative investments made by the
11	State Board of Administration is preserved by the disclosure
12	of information excepted from the created exemption.
13	Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2006.
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16	SENATE SUMMARY
17	Provides that certain types of business information concerning alternative investments of the State Board of
18	Administration are exempt from the public-records law if certified as proprietary business information by the
19	proprietor of the information. Provides for recertification after 10 years. Provides for a court to
20	order the release of confidential records upon making specified findings. Provides for future repeal and review
21	of the exemption under the Open Government Sunset Review Act. (See bill for details.)
22 Act. (See bill for details.)	Act. (See Dill 101 details.)
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