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2 An act relating to a review under the Open  
3 Government Sunset Review Act; amending s.  
4 717.117, F.S.; revising the public-records  
5 exemption for information held by the  
6 Department of Financial Services concerning  
7 unclaimed property; defining the term "property  
8 identifiers"; providing an exemption from  
9 public-records requirements for property  
10 identifiers held by the department in reports  
11 concerning unclaimed property; authorizing the  
12 release of certain information to persons  
13 registered with the department for the purpose  
14 of locating owners of abandoned or unclaimed  
15 property; providing for future legislative  
16 review and repeal of the exemption under the  
17 Open Government Sunset Review Act; providing a  
18 statement of public necessity; providing an  
19 effective date.  
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21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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23 Section 1. Subsection (8) of section 717.117, Florida  
24 Statutes, is amended to read:

25 717.117 Report of unclaimed property.--

26 (8)(a) As used in this subsection, the term "property  
27 identifier" means the descriptor used by the holder to  
28 identify the unclaimed property.

29 (b) Social security numbers and property identifiers  
30 ~~financial account numbers~~ contained in reports required under  
31 this section, held by the department, are confidential and

1 exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
2 Constitution. ~~Notwithstanding this exemption,~~

3       (c) Social security numbers shall be released, for the  
4 limited purpose of locating owners of abandoned or unclaimed  
5 property, to a person registered with the department under  
6 this chapter who is an attorney, Florida-certified public  
7 accountant, private investigator who is duly licensed in this  
8 state, or a private investigative agency licensed under  
9 chapter 493 ~~and registered with the department under this~~  
10 ~~chapter.~~

11       (d) This exemption applies to social security numbers  
12 and property identifiers ~~financial account numbers~~ held by the  
13 department before, on, or after the effective date of this  
14 exemption.

15       (e) This subsection is subject to the Open Government  
16 Sunset Review Act ~~of 1995~~ in accordance with s. 119.15, and  
17 shall stand repealed October 2, 2012 ~~2007~~, unless reviewed and  
18 saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

19       Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public  
20 necessity that property identifiers contained in reports of  
21 unclaimed property be made confidential and exempt from  
22 public-records requirements. Property identifiers, which are  
23 descriptors used by a holder to identify unclaimed property,  
24 could be used to obtain fraudulently unclaimed funds or  
25 property. Protection of property identifiers is a public  
26 necessity in order to prevent the fraudulent use of such  
27 information for purposes of creating falsified or forged  
28 documents that appear to demonstrate entitlement to unclaimed  
29 property. Such use defrauds the rightful property owner or the  
30 State School Fund. Furthermore, the release of property  
31 identifiers contained in reports of unclaimed property hinders

1 the effective and efficient administration of the unclaimed  
2 property program.

3           Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2007.  
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