

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate Comm: RCS 04/21/2014 House

The Committee on Rules (Galvano) recommended the following: Senate Amendment (with title amendment) Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert: Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 316.066, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (f) is added to that subsection, to read: 316.066 Written reports of crashes.-(2) (b) Crash reports held by an agency under paragraph (a) may be made immediately available to the parties involved in the

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12 crash, their legal representatives, their licensed insurance 13 agents, their insurers or insurers to which they have applied for coverage, persons under contract with such insurers to 14 15 provide claims or underwriting information, prosecutorial authorities, law enforcement agencies, the Department of 16 17 Transportation, county traffic operations, victim services programs, radio and television stations licensed by the Federal 18 19 Communications Commission, newspapers qualified to publish legal 20 notices under ss. 50.011 and 50.031, and, in accordance with 21 paragraph (f), free newspapers of general circulation, published once a week or more often, of which at least 7,500 copies are 22 23 distributed by mail or by carrier as verified by a postal 24 statement or by a notarized printer's statement of press run, 25 which are intended to be generally distributed and circulated, 26 and which contain news of general interest with at least 10 27 pages per publication, available and of interest to the public 28 generally for the dissemination of news. For the purposes of 29 this section, the following products or publications are not 30 newspapers as referred to in this section: those intended primarily for members of a particular profession or occupational 31 32 group; those with the primary purpose of distributing 33 advertising; and those with the primary purpose of publishing 34 names and other personal identifying information concerning parties to motor vehicle crashes. 35

36 (f) Free newspapers of general circulation published once a 37 week or more often, of which at least 7,500 copies are 38 distributed by mail or by carrier as verified by a postal 39 statement or by a notarized printer's statement of press run, 40 which are intended to be generally distributed and circulated, Florida Senate - 2014 Bill No. SB 1046

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41	which contain news of general interest with at least 10 pages
42	per publication, available and of interest to the public
43	generally for the dissemination of news, and which request 10 or
44	more crash reports within a 24-hour period before 60 days have
45	elapsed after the report is filed may not have access to the
46	home, cellular, employment, or other telephone number or the
47	home or employment address of any of the parties involved in the
48	crash. This paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset
49	Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed
50	on October 2, 2019, unless reviewed and saved from repeal
51	through reenactment by the Legislature.
52	Section 2. The Legislature finds that a crash report that
53	reveals the home, cellular, employment, or other telephone
54	number or the home or employment address of any of the parties
55	involved in a crash and that is held by an agency that regularly
56	receives or prepares information from or concerning the parties
57	involved in motor vehicle crashes is confidential and exempt
58	from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of
59	the State Constitution for 60 days after the date that the
60	report is filed. Public access to such information during that
61	60-day period by free newspapers of general circulation,
62	published once a week or more often, of which at least 7,500
63	copies are distributed by mail or by carrier as verified by a
64	postal statement or by a notarized printer's statement of press
65	run, which are intended to be generally distributed and
66	circulated, which contain news of general interest with at least
67	10 pages per publication, available and of interest to the
68	public generally for the dissemination of news, and which
69	request 10 or more crash reports within a 24-hour period before

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70	60 days have elapsed after the report is filed should be
71	restricted to combat widespread insurance fraud that occurs when
72	the information is unlawfully used to contact the parties
73	involved in a crash. The exemption protects the parties involved
74	in a crash from those who would unlawfully solicit personal
75	injury protection insurance claims. Accordingly, the Legislature
76	finds that the harm to parties involved in a crash which could
77	result from the release of such information outweighs any
78	minimal public benefit that would be derived from disclosure of
79	that information to the public. Therefore, it is the finding of
80	the Legislature that such information must be made confidential
81	and exempt from public records requirements.
82	Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date that
83	SB 876 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation
84	is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension
85	thereof and becomes law.
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87	=========== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =================================
88	And the title is amended as follows:
89	Delete everything before the enacting clause
90	and insert:
91	A bill to be entitled
92	An act relating to public records; amending s.
93	316.066, F.S.; providing an exemption from public
94	records requirements for certain personal contact
95	information contained in motor vehicle crash reports;
96	providing for future legislative review and repeal of
97	the exemption; providing a statement of public
98	necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

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