1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to public records and public meetings;
3	creating s. 1004.097, F.S.; providing an exemption
4	from public records requirements for any personal
5	identifying information of an applicant for president,
6	provost, or dean of a state university or Florida
7	College System institution; providing an exemption
8	from public meeting requirements for any meeting held
9	for the purpose of identifying or vetting applicants
10	for president, provost, or dean of a state university
11	or Florida College System institution and for any
12	portion of a meeting held for the purpose of
13	establishing qualifications of, or any compensation
14	framework to be offered to, such potential applicants
15	that would disclose personal identifying information
16	of an applicant or potential applicant; providing for
17	applicability; requiring release of the names of
18	specified applicants within a certain timeframe;
19	providing for future legislative review and repeal of
20	the exemptions; providing a statement of public
21	necessity; providing an effective date.
22	
23	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
24	
25	Section 1. Section 1004.097, Florida Statutes, is created
26	to read:
27	1004.097 Information identifying applicants for president,
28	provost, or dean at state universities and Florida College

29 System institutions; public records exemption; public meeting

30 exemption.

31   (1) Any personal identifying information of an applicant

32 for president, provost, or dean of a state university or Florida

33 College System institution is confidential and exempt from s.

34 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

35   (2) Any meeting held for the purpose of identifying or

36 vetting applicants for president, provost, or dean of a state

37 university or Florida College System institution is exempt from

38 s. 286.011 and s. 24(b), Art. I of the State Constitution. This

39 exemption does not apply to a meeting held for the purpose of

40 establishing qualifications of potential applicants or any

41 compensation framework to be offered to potential applicants.

42 However, any portion of such a meeting that would disclose

43 personal identifying information of an applicant or potential

44 applicant is exempt from s. 286.011 and s. 24(b), Art. I of the

45 State Constitution.

46   (3) Any meeting or interview held after a final group of

47 applicants has been established and held for the purpose of

48 making a final selection to fill the position of president,

49 provost, or dean of a state university or Florida College System

50 institution is subject to the provisions of s. 286.011 and s.

51 24(b), Art. I of the State Constitution.

52   (4) The names of applicants who comprise a final group of

53 applicants pursuant to subsection (3) must be released by the

54 state university or Florida College System institution no later

55 than 21 days before the date of the meeting at which final

56 action or vote is to be taken on the employment of the

57 applicants.

58 (5) Any personal identifying information of applicants who

59 comprise a final group of applicants pursuant to subsection (3)

60 become subject to the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a),

61 Art. I of the State Constitution at the time the names of such

62 applicants are released pursuant to subsection (4).

63 (6) This section is subject to the Open Government Sunset

64 Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed

65 on October 2, 2019, unless reviewed and saved from repeal

66 through reenactment by the Legislature.

67 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public

68 necessity that any personal identifying information of an

69 applicant for president, provost, or dean of a state university

70 or Florida College System institution be made confidential and

71 exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Art. I

72 of the State Constitution. It is also the finding of the

73 Legislature that any meeting held for the purpose of identifying

74 or vetting applicants for president, provost, or dean of a state

75 university or Florida College System institution and any portion

76 of a meeting held for the purpose of establishing qualifications

77 of, or any compensation framework to be offered to, such

78 potential applicants that would disclose personal identifying

79 information of an applicant or potential applicant be made

80 exempt from s. 286.011, Florida Statutes, and s. 24(b), Art. I

81 of the State Constitution. The task of filling the position of

82 president, provost, or dean within a state university or Florida

83 College System institution is often conducted by an executive

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84 search committee. Many, if not most, applicants for such a
85 position are currently employed at another job at the time they
86 apply and could jeopardize their current positions if it were to
87 become known that they were seeking employment elsewhere. These
88 exemptions from public records and public meeting requirements
89 are needed to ensure that such a search committee can avail
90 itself of the most experienced and desirable pool of qualified
91 applicants from which to fill the position of president,
92 provost, or dean of a state university or Florida College System
93 institution. If potential applicants fear the possibility of
94 losing their current jobs as a consequence of attempting to
95 progress along their chosen career path or simply seeking
96 different and more rewarding employment, failure to have these
97 safeguards in place could have a chilling effect on the number
98 and quality of applicants available to fill the position of
99 president, provost, or dean of a state university or Florida
100 College System institution.
101   Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2014.